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RUSSELL ERRETT, Editor.

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The Daily and Weekly Commercial—NEWSPAPER DECISIONS. 1. Any one who takes a paper regularly from the Postoffice—whether it is ordered in his name or another's, or whether he is a subscribed or not—is responsible for the payment.

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FIRST EDITION.

FOREIGN NEWS.

BY THE ATLANTIC CABLE.

France.

THE RESURRECTED VENDOME COLUMN.

PARIS, December 27.—The statue of Napoleon was replaced on the newly finished Vendome column to-day. A large crowd assembled in Place Vendome, Rue de la Paix and other streets adjacent, to witness the proceeding. There was no ceremony.

THE ASSEMBLY—DEBATE ON PRESS BILL.

PARIS, December 27.—In the French Assembly to-day "urgency" was voted on the Press bill. In the debate upon the clauses an amendment was carried providing penalties for attacks against the Republic. Jules Dufaure, member for Charenti Inferieure, made the important statement that Marshal MacMahon pledges his respect for the newly elected Senators, asserting that they occupy a position in the Government second only to that of the Marshal. The second clause of the Press bill, which is aimed at the Bonapartist propaganda, was passed after violent recriminations between Jules Favre and the Bonapartists relative to Alsace-Lorraine.

Spain.

THE BOMBARDMENT OF HERNANI.

SAN SEBASTIAN, December 27.—Owing to the vigorous bombardment of Hernani by the Carlists, the situation there has become critical, and it is thought that the garrison will evacuate unless promptly reinforced.

Switzerland.

ACCIDENT IN A SCHOOL HOUSE—EIGHTY PERSONS KILLED AND FIFTY WOUNDED.

BERNE, December 27.—News has been received here of a dreadful calamity which occurred in the little village of Hillikan, in the Canton of Aargau, on Saturday. Christmas festivities were being celebrated in a school house in that place, when the flooring gave way. Eighty persons were killed and fifty more or less wounded.

European Turkey.

GREAT BATTLE IN HERZEGOVINA.

LONDON, December 27.—A dispatch from the seat of war in Herzegovina states that a great battle took place Thursday last, near Nitchitza, lasting nearly all day. Fifteen thousand troops were engaged. The Turkish force claim a decisive victory. The fighting on both sides was desperate, and the losses severe.

England.

THE CORN MARKETS.

LONDON, December 27.—The *Mark Lane Express*, in its regular weekly review of the corn market, says: "The large imports since the first of September kept prices down, but we cannot expect the imports to continue while rates are so low. The business in Europe is reasonably dull and prices barely maintained. At Paris and several provincial markets, flour has again dropped a franc, and wheat a shilling and six pence. Belgium and Holland are about one shilling lower. Vienna is dropping, and Odessa dull, holders maintaining high prices."

FROM THIS MORNING'S LONDON PAPERS.

LONDON, December 28.—The *Times* gives prominence to the following: "We are glad to be able to corroborate the contradiction of the statement that Spain has violated the obligations of neutrality by enlisting Italians for the army in Cuba."

A Paris dispatch to the *Daily News* reports that ex-Queen Isabella, of Spain, is ill of the measles.

A Madrid telegram to the *Standard* confirms the report of the death of General Cubillare de Rodas. The army from Calisonia, numbering 40,000, has arrived in Navarre.

Marine News.

LONDON, December 27.—The steamships Baltic and State of Pennsylvania, from New York; Sarmatian, from Portland, and Indiana, from Philadelphia, arrived out.

PHILADELPHIA.

Indians Editorial Excursion to the Centennial Grounds—Moody and Sankey Meetings.

PHILADELPHIA, December 27.—The Secretary of the Centennial Commission received a letter announcing that the editors of Indiana, with their wives, numbering in all about two hundred persons, will visit Philadelphia about the 16th of January, for the purpose of viewing the Centennial buildings.

The noon meeting to-day, in the depot church, was well attended, the space within the canvas being filled. The services commenced by singing the hymn, "Arise my Soul, Arise," followed by reading the requests for prayer, among others being three for unconverted husbands, one for an unconverted child of seventy, and the request of a lady for her husband, for whom she had been praying twenty-five years. After a prayer and the hymn "What a Friend we have in Jesus," Mr. Moody read a portion of Luke xxiv., followed by the hymn "Ring the Bells of Heaven." Mr. Moody read a letter from a man who had promised to stop drinking and desired a prayer for him. He also announced that, four weeks ago, among the 176 night watchmen at the gas works, only one was converted, but the number was now twelve. After remarks had been made by several persons in the congregation, a fervent prayer was offered by Mr. Moody. George H. Stuart related a number of instances of recent conversions, among others a young man in his own counting house. After singing the hymn "Fully Persuaded," Mr. Sankey said yesterday was one of the best days he had spent in this or any c untry, and a large number of persons in the inquiry rooms had found Christ. Thirty-three persons arose for prayer and the usual notices were given. There was no preaching to-night, but a praise meeting led by Mr. Sankey.

NEWS SUMMARY.

BY TELEGRAPH.

Probabilities for To-Day.—For Tennessee, the Ohio Valley and the Lakes region, stationary or colder weather, northeast to southeast winds and warmer and partly cloudy weather.

The steamer Germanic, from Liverpool, has arrived at New York.

The executive offices in Washington will be closed to general visitors until Monday, January 4.

The steamer Oceanic, from Hong Kong and Yokohama, arrived at San Francisco Sunday evening.

Mr. Marescal, the Mexican Minister, denies that he has made arrangements to secure immigration to Mexico.

The Comptroller of the Currency has called on the national banks for a report showing their condition at the close of business on Friday, 17th of December.

The United States Marshal has arrested Jonas F. Brown, liquor dealer at Minneapolis, and seized his stock, for the neglect to make returns and pay the special tax.

At the Boston Methodist Preachers' meeting yesterday, an effort was made, but failed, to have placed before the public a paper setting forth the views of the meeting with reference to the third-term speech of Bishop Haven.

The Japanese, of all classes, are intensely anxious for the spread of education. New schools are opened and educational endowments made almost daily. A few days ago the Empress in person opened a normal school for girls at Takio and delivered an address.

A detective bought a lottery ticket in St. Louis yesterday and then arrested the seller, under the recent order of the Board of Police Commissioners. The case is set for the 30th inst., and the constitutionality of the order will be tested in the highest courts.

Advices from Hong Kong state that a destructive storm visited Manilla in November. A great number of lives were lost and much valuable property destroyed. At Alba the flood caused by the storm ruined the harvest. It is feared that there will be a lack of hemp for next year. A number of vessels were lost on the coast and many bridges, houses and other structures were swept away. The storm was accompanied by severe shocks of earthquake.

The Pacific Mills, in Lawrence, Massachusetts, employing 5,200 operatives, have given notice of a reduction of ten to fifteen per cent. in wages, to take effect January 1, owing to the depression in the price of print cloth. This corporation announce that they are obliged either to stop their looms or reduce the cost of production. After the reduction, however, the Pacific's rate of wages will be higher than any in the city, and among the highest in the country.

Pure Water for Buffalo.

BUFFALO, December 27.—The Water Commissioners to-day announced to Common Council that at three o'clock this morning the new tunnel, extending under the Niagara river about 1,100 feet, was connected with the inlet pier at its extremity, and that Buffalo was being supplied with pure water from beyond that portion of the river made impure by the dredging and sewage which are turned into it.

LOUISIANA.

Deputy United States Marshal Kidnaped—Bayou Sara in Charge of Regulators—Louisiana Lottery Drawing.

NEW ORLEANS, December 27.—The following was received, in answer to a telegram of yesterday morning, inquiring about Deputy Marshal Young:

BAYOU SARA, December 27, 1875.

S. B. Packard, United States Marshal, New Orleans.

A. L. Young, Deputy Marshal, and another man were kidnaped about one o'clock on the morning of the 25th of December, at Henrietta Hotel. The blood of colored people flowed freely in the town. Regulators are in force and merchants are disturbed in their business. Troops are wanted. Life and property are unsafe.

[Signed] P. G. A. KAUFFMAN, Sheriff West Feliciana.

The above telegram is given for what it is worth. There is no confirmation of any disturbance at Bayou Sara. Marshall Young arrived here to-day, to find his prisoner, Postmaster Callaghan, of Jackson, La., in the parish prison, where he came of his own accord. He disclaimes any knowledge of the parties in masks who captured Marshal Young and himself, subsequently telling both to go.

LOUISIANA LOTTERY.

NEW ORLEANS, December 27.—The drawing of the Louisiana lottery, at the Academy of Music to-day, was witnessed by an immense number of spectators. Everything passed off satisfactorily. The following numbers drew the principal prizes: 382 won $100,000; 16,709 drew $50,000; 2,249 drew $20,000; 11,195 drew $10,000; 3,918 and 18,468 each drew $5,000, and the following drew $2,500 each: 709, 1,898, 6,091 and 11,470.

LOUISVILLE.

Another Denial of the Charges Against Secretary Bristow.

LOUISVILLE, December 27.—J. A. Cunningham, a whisky dealer of high standing in Louisville, publishes a card in the *Courier-Journal* regarding the charges of the Chicago *Inter-Ocean*, in which he says the same are totally unfounded in fact. He furnishes abstracts of all the correspondence relating to the seizure of his whisky, and shows conclusively that Bristow has never been his counsel and was never spoken to by himself concerning this case. Regarding the statement that Bristow dismissed the case after becoming Secretary, Mr. C. says the same is false and the case is still pending. In regard to Douglass' action in the case, Mr. C. says the Commissioner agreed, in April last, to release his goods if the owner would agree to relieve the Government of any damages that may have resulted from the seizures. He also furnishes some correspondence showing that Douglass made several propositions to compromise, at the same time stating that in his opinion the case was a weak one.

NEW YORK.

NEW YORK, December 27, 1875.

PLYMOUTH CHURCH BUSINESS — MRS. MOULTON GETS HER MUTUAL COUNCIL—ADDRESS BY MR. BEECHER.

The business meeting at Plymouth church to-night was not largely attended. The Moderator read a new letter from Mrs. Moulton, and Mr. Shearman followed with the report of the Examining Committee thereon, in which they concede her demands in the following resolutions:

Resolved, That this church accedes to the request of Mrs. Emma C. Moulton for the call of a mutual council to advise this church and Mrs. Moulton upon the two questions submitted by her in her memorandum of December 25, 1875, which are in the following words: "The action of the church in dropping me from its membership as it did—Are its reasons for this valid and sufficient? My action in absuming so long from the services and sacraments of the church, while I did not wish to withdraw from its membership—Were my reasons for this valid and sufficient?"

Resolved, That a special committee of five be appointed by the Moderator, who shall have power and authority in the name and on behalf of this church to prepare and issue letters-missive for the calling of the mutual council hereby assented to, and that the committee are directed to report at such time and place to-morrow evening as shall be designated by the Chairman of the committee, and the Clerk of the church is hereby directed to notify Mrs. Moulton forthwith of the time and place of such meeting, and to invite her to be present, in person or by her representative, for the purpose of drawing up and signing the proper letters-missive.

Resolved, That the said committee are hereby fully authorized and directed to select the churches and pastors to be convened in the mutual council, to the number heretofore specified by Mrs. Moulton, and to issue the letters-missive to an equal number of churches and ministers to be named by Mrs. Moulton; and they are further directed to appoint the meeting of said council for the earliest practicable day.

Resolved, That the Clerk of this church is hereby instructed to forward a copy of these resolutions immediately to Mr. and Mrs. Moulton.

This was adopted, and Rev. Henry Ward Beecher offered the following resolutions:

Resolved, That the committee of seven appointed to call the advisory council in the name of this church, are hereby instructed to fix the day for the assembling of that council at least one week after the assembling of the mutual council in which this church has agreed to unite.

Some discussion was had on the resolution, after which the audience arose and, with an evident feeling of reluctance at addressing so small a number, said it might seem strange that the church should send so much time in writing letters to a lady. He wished to say in regard to the matter that it was done for the purpose of removing from the church the imputations by which have been cast upon it by its enemies. People said that it carried on a course which was oppressive to the members. The church had always attempted to act as a household, and even in disciplining its members this had been done. It had not acted as a legislative or executive body. When affection can do no more, the church would take it on itself to ward properly disciplining its members, and for this reason the name of Mrs. Emma C. Moulton had been dropped from the rolls, her rights having been looked upon as just as sacred as those of any other person. They knew that the power, by which she was being impelled was concealed behind her; they were aware that this was an unscrupulous power and one that had watched every opportunity to injure the church. Time was precious, and so much care and attention had been given to this matter. In regard to the advisory council, he desired to state that the church called it because the time had come when it intended to take its own matters into its own hands. The speaker referred at some length to former councils, and said that they had been taught by experience that every opportunity to injure the church would be taken and zealously hunted up, and they had decided to clear it of the many imputations heaped upon it. They would turn their books inside out and would answer any and all questions that might be put to them by mortal man. He declared it a shame that the community should have been so annoyed and families injured for no justifiable reasons whatever but because of the ill-feeling of these persons. All the church wanted was liberty to pursue its own business, and nothing more. He wanted a mutual council on these questions of Mrs. Moulton's and was not afraid to meet her in relation to them. This advisory council, called by Plymouth church, was not intended to be a mere handful of men going to do here one that would make an impression on the minds of the public; but it could not control the mutual council.

During his address, which was very spirited, Mr. Beecher was frequently applauded. The resolution was adopted unanimously, as was the following, offered by Mr. Shearman:

Resolved, That the special committee of seven heretofore authorized to call an advisory council, be empowered to amend the letters-missive by making whatever changes may be necessary and by limiting, if it see fit, the scope of the questions relating to the affairs of this church.

A committee of five, composed of the following gentlemen, was then appointed to call the mutual council: Rev. Edward Beecher, D. D., Rossiter W. Raymond, Thomas G. Shearman, R. F. Blatchford and T. J. Tilney. The meeting adjourned until Friday evening next.

JULIUS CÆSAR AT BOOTH'S THEATER—BARRETT, DAVENPORT AND HANGS.

Another Shakespearean revival began to-night, by the reproduction of "Julius Cæsar" at Booth's Theater, to a crowded audience and with Lawrence Barrett, E. L. Davenport and F. C. Bangs in the cast.

Another Rumor from Chicago.

CHICAGO, December 27.—The *Times* has information that District Attorney Bangs has received instructions from Washington to allow all parties under indictment here for defrauding the revenue to plead guilty, and to insure them immunity from sentence to the penitentiary.

Suspension of Coal Mining.

PHILADELPHIA, December 27.—It is understood that the leading coal companies in the Wyoming region have agreed upon a total suspension for one month, to take effect the last of this month.

SECOND EDITION.

WASHINGTON.

THE BABCOCK-BRISTOW HOAX.

A Poor Sensation Easily Disposed of.

Republican Congressional Committee to be Reorganized.

Wholesale Removals from Patent Office.

Secretary Chandler Besieged by Indignant Congressmen,

But Firm in His Resolution to Reduce Expenses.

General Cowen Explains the Issue of Agricultural College Scrip to Arkansas.

Special Dispatch to the Commercial.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 27, 1875.

Reorganization of Republican Congressional Committee.

The Resident Republican Committee, in conjunction with such members of the Congressional Committee as may be in the city, will meet early after the reassembling of Congress to determine upon a time for holding a caucus to select a representative from each State, where such State has a Republican member in either House, to serve on the Congressional Committee. At least one-half of the members appointed on this committee in the last campaign are no longer in Congress, so that it will be necessary to substitute others in their places. It is proposed to fill up the general committee and to reorganize the Executive and Resident Committees so as to place them in condition for effective work in the approaching campaign. The Resident Committee is charged with the preparation and distribution of documents containing pertinent facts and information.

The "Inter-Ocean" Sensation.

General Babcock to-day, in conversation, pronounced the statements in a Chicago paper, so far as they related to him, pure fabrications. Secretary Bristow says the same thing with respect to the allegations against himself.

Reduction of Force in Patent Office.

The wholesale political decapitations in the Patent Office have aroused quite a storm of letters and protests from members of Congress. The Secretary, however, is in earnest in his reduction of the expenses of his Department, and is not in the least terrified by this epistolary bombardment.

WASHINGTON, D. C., December 27, 1875.

AN EXPLANATION FROM ASSISTANT SECRETARY COWEN.

General B. R. Cowen, Assistant Secretary of the Interior, makes the following statement with reference to the article published in New York last Saturday, charging him with issuing Agricultural College scrip to the State of Arkansas in defiance of the expressed will of Congress, which required that State to previously make arrangements for funding certain of its bonds held as part of the Indian trust funds. He says the article lacks one item of importance to the completion of history, namely, the fact that the old and worthless bonds of Arkansas, held by the Secretary of the Interior in trust, were refunded, principal and interest, by new bonds, in accordance with an arrangement made before the agricultural scrip was released, though not completed until afterward. He further says the Secretary of the Interior holds the new bonds at this time. There was no impropriety in the action of the Department in regard to the matter and the whole transaction was regarded at the time and is still upheld as proper, regular and strictly legal.

COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS.

The sub-committee of the House Committee on Appropriations expect to have the Pension, the West Point Academy and the Consular and Diplomatic appropriation bills ready to report on the reassembling of the House of Representatives.

MEMPHIS.

A Case of Salvage on the River.

MEMPHIS, December 27.—Early last Friday morning the steamboat Mary Miller, from New Orleans for Cincinnati, when about forty miles below Napoleon, was struck by a squall in trying to land and driven against the bank, breaking her stern and causing her to ship about three feet of water. Some bales of rags were thrown overboard, the pumps set to work and temporary repairs made, after which the boat was saved, with only a couple of hogsheads of sugar and a few barrels of rice in her hold damaged. The steamboat Illinois coming up, hailed and took off a deck load. On the arrival of the Mary Miller here she was attached on a claim of $30,000 for salvage, made by the officers of the Illinois, but the attachment was withdrawn this afternoon and the matter will doubtless be compromised. A protest was entered here by the commander of the Mary Miller.

SAN FRANCISCO.

New Process for Extracting Precious Metals from Refractory Ores.

SAN FRANCISCO, December 27.—R. M. Frier, the inventor of a new process of reducing refractory ores, which has attracted great interest on the coast recently, has been in the city during the past week. Mining men and capitalists have bestowed him during his stay, for information as to the process and with business propositions. The process is deemed of the greatest importance to the mining interests of the Pacific coast, and the impression is general that it will do all that is claimed for it, namely, extract all the precious metal contained in the most refractory ores. Frier left for Grass Valley to-day, where the process is being practically used.

News from San Diego says the reported revolution at San Rafael, Lower California, is a canard.

ALBANY.

Canal Investigation — Auditor Thayer's Shaving Operations.

ALBANY, December 27.—The Canal Investigating Commission report that Auditor Thayer's purchases of drafts and certificates against the State between the seventh of December, 1874, and the second of July, 1875, amounted to fifty-four in number and represented the sum of $318,343, and adds: "Large as this sum appears, we have reason to believe the list is still far from complete."

CRIMINAL RECORD.

Suicide in Zanesville.

ZANESVILLE, O., December 27.—On Saturday night a man was seen to walk into the canal. A search was made all day yesterday and to-day until ten o'clock, when the body of an old citizen, named Samuel McCallister, was found. It was evidently a suicide.

Fatal Combat with Burglars.

BOSTON, December 27.—Moses A. Wood, in a combat with two burglars, at his house in Cambridge, yesterday morning, was stabbed three times and shot in the abdomen. The burglars escaped, but left $2,000 worth of booty they had packed. Mr. Wood's injuries are believed to be fatal.

An Odd Verdict of a Coroner's Jury.

PROVIDENCE, December 27.—The coroner's jury in the case of the child killed in his mother's arms by the kick of his drunken father, in Westerly, returned a verdict that the person from whom the father purchased the liquor which made him drunk was guilty of the murder of the boy. The father, Philip Gallagher, was held in $1,000 to answer before the Supreme Court.

Homicide in Hamilton County, Indiana.

INDIANAPOLIS, December 27.—Richard Parseley was fatally shot by Jas. Redwine, near Fisher's Station, in Hamilton county, Friday afternoon. The parties were quarreling about the result of a shooting match for a turkey.

FIRE RECORD.

Hastings, New York—$500,000.

HASTINGS, December 27.—The Hudson River sugar refinery, owned by Messrs. Kattenborn, Hopke, Offerman & Doscher, was destroyed by fire on Sunday afternoon. The origin of the fire is unknown. Loss $500,000; insurance less than $300,000. One hundred and fifty men are thrown out of employment.

STEAMER MINNEOLA WRECKED.

The Vessel a Total Loss—Passengers and Crew Saved.

MEMPHIS, December 27.—The steamer Minneola, Captain Shunk, of the Memphis and Cincinnati line, from Cincinnati for this city, with about a hundred tons of miscellaneous freight, struck a hidden obstruction about three o'clock this afternoon, at the head of the outlet, some forty miles above here, and within five minutes filled and turned over, a portion of her cargo floating off. There were twelve cabin passengers and some ten deck passengers on board, but by means of lifeboats and by clinging to the wreck they all, together with the crew, were saved and were brought here by the Belle of Memphis. L. S. McGeary, the mate, of St. Louis, was slightly injured in trying to get up stairs after the accident. Captain Shunk brought him here and left both clerks and watchmen in charge of the wreck. A portion of the cargo can be saved, but the boat will prove a total loss. She was valued at $10,000, and insured in the Eureka, of Cincinnati, for $4,000.

THE BATTLE OF TRENTON.

Celebration of Ninety-Ninth Anniversary

TRENTON, N. J., December 27.—The anniversary of the Battle of Trenton to-day was attended by a good deal of enthusiasm. Notwithstanding it was confined altogether to citizens of Trenton, about ten thousand persons engaged in the celebration. There was one military company, and all the others were in companies made up from citizens, without uniforms, but supplied with arms from the State Arsenal. General Washington and Generals Sullivan, Green and Mercer were all personated, also Colonel Rahl and others of the Hessians or British army. The movement of troops began at eight o'clock, and the fighting through the streets between the contending armies reached its height about ten o'clock. The surrender took place at Assunpink creek, and was received with cheers. In the afternoon addresses were delivered to a large audience, at the Taylor Opera House, by General Campbell, General Rushing, Wm. A. Barton, E. C. Stahlon and Judge Narr. The immense crowd of troops dined at Washington Hall. The day passed off without accidents.

The Storm in Southern Ohio.

CINCINNATI, December 27.—Yesterday's storm did considerable damage at various points in Southern Ohio. At Catawba, Clark county, a new Methodist church was wrecked; damage $3,000. In that vicinity and in the neighborhood of Mc Connelsville streams are at flood height, sweeping away fences, outbuildings, trees, haystacks and bridges.

Coal Mines and Churches.

To the Editor of the Pittsburgh Commercial.

In your issue, of Christmas, you announce that a "marked improvement has been made in the ventilation of Ohio coal mines." I should like to be able to hope that a similar announcement might be made, next Christmas, regarding the Ohio churches, and the Pennsylvania churches, the Illinois churches, and all other churches which are, now, conducted on the "close-communion principle, or requiring every brother and sister, and every occasional hearer, to breathe that same cubic foot of air, over and over, over and over, several hundred times, every Sabbath of every year, and which thus does all that in them lies to communicate all the diseases, of every individual in the audience, to every other individual, who may occupy a place in one of their pews.

The idea in building churches seems to be the hiving in of so many cubic feet of atmosphere, consecrating it, and handing it down, from generation to generation, as an heirloom, so that each one of the flock, while inhaling his or her own lungs in the sacred inclosure, may be able to feel that he is inspired by at least a small portion of that same carbonic acid gas which had once passed through the sacred bronchial tubes of his dead grandfather who lies in the same, same place; while many of his aunts, uncles and cousins, who have long since taken her to the spirit land, in this day and generation, contribute to the solidification of that compound which he now inhales within the sanctuary.

I have sometimes wondered that, in that better day a coming, there may be one grand consecration service held by authority of all the popes and potentates, priests and prelates at one time, to be held on earth and intrusted with the ecclesiastical authority to make things sacred; and that they will so bless that fifty miles deep of atmosphere which envelopes our globe, that there will be no heresy in it; but will be perfectly safe to open the windows after, if not during every service, and permit the entrance of a fresh supply of that oxygen which so many billions of creatures breathe with impunity, if not with benefit.

This is a case which, as it comes home to me, personally, as it does not to every one, for, from earliest infancy, I was taught that going to church was a sacred duty; that, next to, for the preservation of my life, a country residence was almost impossible for me to come often to a city church; and Rev. James Graham used to dispense, out of his pulpit, that which was not to leavened with the casteut breath of a preacher, and several hundred previous congregations, as the church was built of logs, by obtaining large quantities of lost tumbling out, and the birds flying in, while the forest trees sent their voices through open doors and windows, to join in the hymns sung by the congregation.

When we did come to a plastered, brick church, something in my face used to warn my parents to send me to the door, and many a sermon I have lost from Rev. Black preach, in that old church, up in Plum alley, while I sat on the door step and watched the graves, which have all been emptied of their contents and levelled long ago. As I grew older I learned, through bitter experience, that I was made to live in an atmosphere largely mixed with oxygen, and that second-hand breath would not keep the machinery running. I should not like to go to an old clothes man for my apparel, but should greatly prefer this to inhaling other people's old breath, even if none of them had dyspepsia or used tobacco; and this peculiarity of wanting my breathing material from first hands has, finally, made me a stranger in Zion and an alien in Israel.

Lately, I was tempted to go, once more, to the old church which my grandparents helped to build, where I was baptized, and took my first communion. It was a bright, sunshiny day, the outside air about fifty degrees above zero, the house crowded and every ventilator and window open as much as possible to get it, while two hot stoves helped the congregation to consume the little oxygen left after the morning service. The singing there seemed as if it might have been cut into sections, with a fine knife, and thrown out from a pitchfork, so loaded was it with human exhalations. To breathe it in one minutes and live, to me seemed impossible; but I did want, once more, to hear the old communion service, and the old psalms sang to the old tunes. So I went to a side aisle, packed a window, and sat by it. Of course the stream of cold air, coming eagerly in to fill the large vacuum was unpleasant, nay, dangerous, to those who sat in the line of currents. Of course the window must be closed and the oxygen or I shut out.

The occasion recalled the address of Rev. Andrew Bigg, in that house, forty-five years ago, at a communion service, in which he said that the Lord's Supper was called the Eucarist, after the oath which used to be administered to a Roman soldier, never to turn his back upon his leader, but follow him to the death. So he said the communicant vowed to "follow the Lamb, through good and through evil report, to a palace or to a prison." He urged each to follow Christ, no matter where he led, and added solemnly, "He may lead you out of the Church." The old confession of faith must be wrong, or Christ has led me out of Church. If the Sixth Commandment requires us to "use all lawful endeavors to preserve our own and our neighbor's lives," and forbids all practices which tend to shorten our own lives and impair our usefulness, it must require me to stay where I can get pure air to breathe, and forbid me to go into any assembly where there is a moral certainty that I am to be poisoned by exhalations from other people's bodies. In a series of experiments covering many years, my unvarying experience is that if I find a church one day, in which it is possible to breathe, the next time I go that church has relapsed into the normal condition of churches; and I am a commuter to the annoyance of the congregation, and had better have been a stay-outer. No wonder preachers generally get bronchitis! The stuff they breathe is enough to kill an ostrich! No wonder they do not tower, intellectually, over men of other professions, as one might expect from the magnitude of their calling. No brain could do its best, or reach its highest possibilities, while clogged with miasma, with miasma of the deadliest kind, that which arises from animal organisms, unnaturally fed, and loaded with disease.

So I would fain hope that science or public sentiment, during our Centennial year, would do, for the churches and preachers, what has been done for the coal mines and coal diggers, so that a church every church—may be relied upon to be as clean and pure as an Ohio coal pit, or any other coal pit, and be so that one might go into it at any time, and live.

JANE GREY SWISSHELM.

The Musical Association of Central Pennsylvania, comprising thirteen counties, will hold its third annual convention in the Musical College, Fresburg, Pa., commencing on Monday evening, January 10, 1876, and to close on the 14th of said month. Concerts are to be given on Wednesday, Thursday and Friday evenings of that week.

TELEGRAPHIC PERSONALS.

M. De Lesseps has arrived at Cairo, Egypt.

Augustus Mayhew, a contributor to London *Punch*, is dead.

Diebold, Morris & Co., manufacturers of iron safes at Canton, Ohio, have made an assignment.

Col. John W. Foster, United States Minister to Mexico, had a reception and dinner at Evansville, Ind., last night. He leaves for Mexico to-day, with his family.

Miss Susan B. Anthony has been requested by the Brooklyn attorney of Loader to visit the State of New York that she may be summoned as a witness in the perjury case. She refuses to comply with the request.

Hon. W. A. Richardson died of paralysis at his home in Evansville, Ind., yesterday morning. He served five terms in the House of Representatives at Washington, and was elected to fill the vacancy in the Senate occasioned by the death of Stephen A. Douglass. He was sixty-four years old.

POLITICAL.

State.

The Butler *Herald*, Uncle Jake Zeigler's paper, says: Mr. Randall secured the appointment of Fletcher, of Philadelphia, as Superintendent of the Folding Department in Congress, and Mr. Clymer obtained for Mr. Acncma, a former member of Congress from Berks county, a clerkship. What the other members from Pennsylvania obtained, we do not know, but presume they will be accommodated with appointments down among the muciloge bottles and paste pots in the basement.

General.

Tweed, though absent, is a millstone fastened to Tilden's neck. It does go hard with the wicked in this world.

The Boston newspapers are very anxious that the next Republican National Convention shall be held in Faneuil Hall.

There is a close and animated contest in the Wyoming Legislature over a bill repealing the act establishing women suffrage in that Territory.

The New York *Herald* says the House Democrats are now acting in the play, "Small Men in Great Parts; or, Talents to the Front Rear." We don't doubt if Talents has been engaged this season.

Southern journals profess themselves more than satisfied with the representation given to the South on the standing committees of the House of Representatives, and the Richmond *Inquirer* even goes so far as to say: "In this, indeed, we fear the Speaker has gone a little too far."

According to the Washington correspondent of the Springfield *Republican*, a prominent Democrat says that he does not expect his party to take positive ground on anything in Congress. It will endeavor to cripple the Administration as much as possible, and dodge issues like that relating to the currency.

The Hartford, Conn., *Evening Post* thinks it reasonable that Representative W. H. Barnum, of Connecticut, the noted Congressional "statistician," should find a place on the Committee of Foreign Affairs, since he has heretofore manifested so little interest in the affairs of his own country.

The Philadelphia *Ledger* notes that before the Christmas holiday recess, at the last session, several of the appropriation bills had been introduced into the House, and two of them had passed that body and been sent to the Senate. This year the only bill yet passed is one extending the duration of the Alabama Claims Court for six months, a matter about which there was no difference of opinion.

The Boston *Pilot*, which is perhaps the leading Roman Catholic journal of this country, reads the Democrats of that city a lesson for their course in regard to the recent municipal election there, in trying to defeat Mayor Cobb, saying: "It is a lesson to the Democracy that there should be no trading in matters of principle, that expedient action is *always* wrong, that inferior men should not be given the reins, and that the only way to succeed is to nominate none but the very best men."

IT is understood that Mr. Horace White, formerly editor of the Chicago *Tribune*, returns from his visit to Europe with materially changed views on some political subjects, prominent among which is the question of protection of home industry by tariff discrimination. He has heretofore been a decided free trader, holding that governments have nothing to do with the affairs of the people beyond police duties, to see that they are protected from molestation in their domestic and foreign interests. He now accepts the declaration of the Constitution, that governments are instituted among men "to establish justice, ensure domestic tranquility, provide for the common defence, promote the *general welfare*." Thus viewing the matter, Mr. White now recognizes as within the province of the Government the protection of home industry from the competition of older countries.

☞ *Advertisements on this page, under the several heads of* WANTED, FOR SALE, FOR RENT, *&c., will be inserted at transient rates only—*TEN CENTS *per line for each insertion. No advertisement less than* FIFTY CENTS.

WANTED.

WANTED—BUILDING — WANTED to rent a large Building, suitable for a Publishing House, in a central location. Address, stating terms, &c., PUBLISHER, P. O. Lock Box 283, Pittsburgh.

WANTED—LADIES—A FEW INTELLIGENT Young Ladies, to engage in a light, respectable business, paying from $4 to $6 per day. All expenses advanced. References required. R. FARNHAM, 208 Second street, Pittsburgh.

WANTED—A MAN THOROUGHLY experienced in the construction of Coke Ovens and the manufacture of Coke, for a large firm operating in Canada. Address, with references, and wages expected, B. M., care of WILLIAM D. MARVEL, Coal and Iron Merchant, 111 Broadway, New York.

WANTED—PUPIL S—THE UNDERSIGNED, a native of Germany, having purchased a regular Piano Forte Factory, and being desirous of his country, is desirous of obtaining pupils to be instructed in the art of Piano Forte Making, Tuning and Hebrew language. LEWIS BOCK, 172 Market street, Pittsburgh. Reference—Rev. Dr. Lowrie, 131 Penn avenue; Rev. John Landis, 178 Market street, Allegheny; Mrs. Thos. McFadden, Jr., 125 Penn avenue.

BUSINESS CHANCES.

A RARE CHANCE—WANTED, PARTNER, with a small capital, in an established, good paying business, done on cash principles. For further information address Box A., Commercial office.

FOR SALE—DRUG AND PRESCRIPTION STORE—Doing one of the best paying businesses in the city; centrally located; profits large; will bear the strictest investigation; reason for selling, ill health. A rare chance for a bargain. Address PRESCRIPTIONS, Dispatch office.

WANTED A PARTNER—EITHER Special or General, to invest from $15,000 to $20,000 in a manufacturing business, located in Pittsburgh. Parties will be given an established trade of more than ten years, and is now doing a large and profitable business. Home wishing to establish a manufacturing business a more favorable opportunity could not be presented. Address MANUFACTURER, this office.

BUSINESS CHANCE—AN EXCELLENT Opportunity Offered to Enterprising Mechanics: Stock of the Missouri Brass Foundry, with Patterns and Gas Pipe Works, of the late John Kasperlik, situated at the corner of Second and Washington avenue, in the city of St. Louis, Missouri. The above mentioned well known establishment, situated in the heart of the city, and in complete running order, and having been extensively patronized for years, will be sold by order of the Probate Court of St. Louis county, offered for sale upon reasonable terms, or parties can apply to JOSEPH DIEDERICH and CHAS. SEITZ, Executors, No. 600 North Second street, St. Louis, Mo.

FOR SALE.

FOR SALE—LEATHER AND RUBBER Belting, Hose and Oils of every description. Tubing, No. 64 Water street, corner Locust and Sandusky streets, Allegheny.

FOR SALE—TWELVE NEW AND second-hand Engines, 2 Portables, 6 Second Engine Lathes, 1 Planer, CARLIN, corner of Locust and Sandusky streets, Allegheny.

FOR SALE—150 PIECES MARBLE TILE, polished ready for use. Each piece about one foot square. Call at the Tile and Mantel warerooms of JAS. W. DRAPE & CO., 183 Federal street, Allegheny.

FOR SALE—ENGINES AND BOILERS of first and second-hand, of all sizes, Stationary and Portable, from 2 to 60-horse power, now on hand at No. 115 Fifth avenue, and Nos. 1 and 3 Duquesne avenue and P., Ft. W. and C. R. R., Allegheny, Pa.

FOR SALE—LARGE STOCK OF NEW and good SECOND-HAND BOILERS in complete order. County inspector's certificate of test with each boiler. Repairing done promptly at the West Penn Boiler Works, 56 and 58 Water street. R. HUNTER, WATSON & MUNROE.

FOR SALE—SECOND HAND MACHINERY.—One 8 by 20 in. Engine and Boiler; one 5 H. P. Portable Engine and Boiler; two Planers and Matchers; one Sash, Hall Sticking Machine and Jointer; three iron Lathes, 18 in. by 6 ft.; three Lathes, 20 in. by 6 ft.; one 32 in. Drill Press. All in good order. M. B. COCHRAN & CO., 121 Liberty street.

FOR SALE—NO. 243 ALLEGHENY avenue, Allegheny City. The House is nearly new, has 10 Rooms, is well planned and the neighborhood first-class. The Lot is 22 feet in front by 120 feet deep to paved street or alley. Will be sold low and very accommodating terms

The Commercial.

TUESDAY, DECEMBER 28, 1875.

GOVERNOR TILDEN has withdrawn those Quaker guns from his "reform" lines, and gone into quarters for the winter.

ONE way in which the *Post* might help to keep JERE. BLACK'S name before the country is by coming out for him as the Centennial orator.

SERGEANT BATES seems to have sev red his connection with the New York *Herald*. At least the O. A. U. lunacy of that paper has apparently passed.

THERE is a possibility that the vaulting ambition of certain Presidential aspirants may so o'erleap itself this winter as to "fall on the other sill." The symptoms are already visible.

ACCORDING to the average Democratic estimate of the abilities of the Chairman of the Committee of Ways and Means, he would seem to be exactly suited for the elevated position of superintendent of a milk churn.

TIMES are hard and money scarce, but we will bet one million of greenbacks that Jeremiah S. Black can be nominated and elected over Grant or any other man.—*Pittsburgh Post.*

Has the CHORPENNING claim been paid?

THE Rochester *Democrat and Chronicle* wants an "unfledged" delegation from New York to the Republican National Convention. The birds will not look well in that condition, but as it will be summer time when the Convention meets, the callow brood will not suffer from the cold.

IT IS worthy of remark that in all the cases in which the crooked whisky men have plead guilty they have been very careful not to put in that plea upon any indictment for felony. They have owned up only upon indictments for misdemeanors. There is method in their frankness.

THE Democrats cannot begin their proposed work of retrenchment and reform a moment too soon for us, but it does not follow that a Democrat is a reformer merely because he accepts reform as a cry, any more than he is a gun because he swallows the powder which his physician prescribes.

IT SEEMS that the wiser headsamong the Democratic Congressmen have decided upon a short session and quick work. Congress must adjourn in June, they say. We hope it may; but it will have to do better than it has done, for so far it has done nothing but waste the first month of the session.

THE number of immigrants arriving at New York this years, up to the close of last week, is 99,582 against 149,762 in 1874, being a decrease of about thirty per cent. This falling off is attributed to the dullness of business. The number of return passports issued during the year is fifty per cent. less than during any year since 1855.

ENGLAND exported 41 tons of railroad iron to this country last month, against 1,819 tons for November 1874. Her total exports of railroad iron to the United States for the eleven months ending November 30th, have been 17,755 tons, against 93,445 tons for the corresponding period last year. Great Britain no longer holds mastery over our ways.

THE export of American dry goods to Europe has attracted the attention of the British Minister of Foreign Affairs, and the London *Telegraph* bluntly tells the British manufacturers that they are losing their mastery by swindling in their goods. It says that the "British has been found out and "will not bear repetition." The prospects of this branch of the general fabric of American industry begin to loom up quite encouragingly.

THE Catholics who recently assembled at St. Paul to witness the consecration of Bishop IRELAND adopted a series of seventy-three resolutions, protesting against the removal, by the President, of Chief Justice DUNNE, of Arizona, on account of his position on the common school question, and expressing their opinions on various other points. They should have added three more to the series, and put the lot up as embodying "the spirit of '76."

THE New York *Herald* was very jubilant over the adoption of SPRINGER'S anti-third term resolution in the House, but is now less satisfied with it. It says:

The anti-third term resolution which young Mr. Springer so suddenly sprung on the House, though a temporary triumph, was a substantial misfortune to the party in the interests of Democratic unity that General Grant should be the Republican candidate, and forcing the Republicans to vote against a third term blunted the most trenchant of the Democratic weapons.

ACCORDING to the annual report of the State Auditor of Ohio, just published, the total value of the taxable property of the State is $1,598,585,862, an increase during the last fifty years of thirty fold. The rate of taxation during the same period, however, has increased over one hundred per cent. This year the taxable property has increased but little over one per cent., while the taxes have swelled from $36,857,-196 to $27,362,971, an increase of over four per cent., a disparity altogether abnormal.

OUR importations of most descriptions of foreign merchandise have been greatly reduced this year. At the port of New York alone they have fallen $85,000,000 below those of the year immediately preceding the panic and $65,000,000 below those of last year. People cannot afford the expense they have heretofore indulged, and many have reconsidered their mode of living. The necessity for economy still exists, and is likely to continue for an indefinite period. There never were a hundred and one cents found in a dollar, yet.

THAT the great commercial want of Boston, to-day, is an independent through railroad line to the West, is sufficiently shown by the recent lowering of freight rates by the several railroad companies leading from New York to the West. The Hub will not be able to successfully compete in the great strife for business till she gets such a road, whether by way of Poughkeepsie or the Hoosac tunnel is of secondary importance, although the former route offers the great advantage of opening up to Massachusetts the South and Southwest, and bringing nearer communication with the coal fields of our own State and the cotton districts of the lower belt.

THE proposed supplementing of the British Iron and Steel Institute by an organization similar in character to our Iron and Steel Association, constitutes an important new departure. The Iron and Steel Institute confines itself to technical matters, and there is no organization by means of which the national and international aspects of the trade can be viewed. In this respect England is behind this country. The special objects of the new association will be the collection, tabulation and publication of statistics of the exports and imports of the iron and steel trades, with the tariffs which obtain in various countries; and to gather general information on the commercial aspects of this important industry.

A HAPPY idea, and one worthy of general adoption, is the idea in the plan of Public School Industrial Expositions. By a State law these expositions are legalized, and a fund set apart for their support. One of these exhibitions is now open at Des Moines, containing over a thousand articles, the handiwork of boys and girls from five to eighteen years of age, consisting of every imaginable design, showing the skill and genius of the children. There are painting, drawing, crochet, knitting, sewing, embroidery, wood-work and cooking, of every kind. Very many of the articles are said to be of an order of merit far beyond the years of the makers. The articles are grouped according to the ages of pupils, and prizes awarded. Similar exhibitions in other States would, doubtless, as in Iowa, prove among the most interesting features of the school year.

IT WOULD seem that at least some of the parties to the scandalous "safe burglary conspiracy" at Washington are still at their underground work. Near the close of the last session of Congress the character of the trials to take place, including the trial of the safe burglars, led, as a matter of precaution, to the passage of a bill providing for new lists of jurymen for the District. The bill was promptly passed by both Houses, and sent to the President a few days before the end of the session. Everybody supposed the President would sign it as a matter of course, and no attention was paid to the subject until late in the summer, when one of the trials was about to come on, and it became necessary to raise the question about jurors. It was then found that the bill did not appear among the laws, and a search failed to discover it among those signed and returned to the State Department. Further search has subsequently shown that it had been included in the package of bills returned without signature, and doubts are now freely expressed as to whether the President ever really considered the bill, and people wonder whether he was ever made acquainted with the objects of the measure. Some one intimately connected with the President, officially or otherwise, is responsible for this piece of rascality; and the question is, Who? The people have full confidence in the integrity of the Executive, but it is evidently high time that he cut himself loose from certain of his surroundings. He owes it alike to himself and to the great party which has so honored him that he shall do this without delay.

BRISTOW AND THE WHISKY FRAUDS.

The charges trumped up by the Chicago *Inter-Ocean* against Secretary BRISTOW, in the interest of the indicted BABCOCK, constitute what may be termed a Cock and Bull story. There is nothing in any of the allegations to shake public confidence in the Secretary of the Treasury, even if their truth be conceded; and as their truth is promptly and positively denied, the concocted story becomes as false as it is frivolous.

We have all along supposed that BABCOCK would never allow himself to be tried on the indictment found against him if he could help it; and this *Inter-Ocean* fabrication is evidence of his intention to sneak out of the trial he was apparently so anxious to invoke, under cover of an attack upon Secretary BRISTOW. But this trick will not win. Mr. BABCOCK does not need to be told that two wrongs do not make one right; and he cannot prove himself innocent by attempting to prove BRISTOW guilty.

The doctrine of the Administration is "Let no guilty man escape." If BRISTOW is guilty (which no sensible man believes) let him be punished; but at the same time, if BABCOCK be guilty, let him, also, be punished. BABCOCK'S guilt or innocence, we submit, is to be determined upon the evidence which affects and applies to him, and has nothing to do with the guilt or innocence of any one else.

We submit, also, for Mr. BABCOCK'S consideration the fact that Secretary BRISTOW does not act like a man guilty of a connection with whisky frauds. Whatever may have been his personal and legal relations *before* he was made Secretary, he is now on trial for or on account of them. His actions as Secretary are all that he can be held accountable for; and every act of his, as a public officer, has shown him a fearless administrator of the law against the whisky thieves. No one connected with the whisky frauds has ever voluntarily raised a hand or spoken a word for their exposure; and the Secretary's relentless raid upon the recusants is the best possible evidence of his freedom from all possible connection or sympathy with them.

The *Inter-Ocean-Babcock* attack upon the fearless and incorruptible Secretary of the Treasury is so ridiculous and so baseless that the country could well afford to laugh at its imbecility, if it were not for the fact that it is plainly a part of a general plan to drive the Secretary out of the Cabinet. The charges are made in the interest and for the benefit of BABCOCK, and as BABCOCK'S father-in-law, and the father-in-law of Lieutenant Colonel Grant, both live in Chicago, it is admissible, in putting these facts together, to guess at the source from which the attack springs. The conspirators, in their over-anxiety to get BRISTOW out of the way, have not been careful enough to hide their tracks.

That BRISTOW will have to go out of the Cabinet we regard as certain. Either he or BABCOCK must go under, and the whisky ring do not feel easy for a moment so long as BRISTOW remains in power. But if he goes, we warn the President that the game is too transparent to escape detection. The keen-eyed public can see through it at a glance, and the odium of the removal will not fall upon the Secretary. The way to make him popular is to turn him out on account of his severity in prosecuting the whisky thieves, and he will not be turned out for any other reason. The country will stand by BRISTOW as a pure and honest and fearless public officer, and any attempt to punish him for the stand he has taken against corruption and fraud will recoil with fearful severity upon all engaged in it.

We cannot believe it possible that Mr. RANDALL is a party to this dirty scheme to blacken the reputation of the Secretary and open a door for BABCOCK'S escape. If he is, so much the worse for him, and for his party if it abets him. Whoever stands in the way of bringing the whisky bandits to condign punishment will be swept away in the storm of public indignation. Congress will do well to examine into this whole whisky business *after* the courts get through with it; but let it not step in to stop the righteous operation of judicial scrutiny. BABCOCK is indicted and BRISTOW is not. Let the former, therefore, remain in the hands of his just judges until he is disposed of, leaving the course of justice free from Congressional interposition and unobstructed in its operations. Let no guilty man be shielded from the effects of his crimes. No party can afford to stand by the whisky robbers or their aiders and abettors, and no man professing to be a statesman can afford to be used as a shield or them. Whenever there is any proof of BRISTOW'S participation with them, let him be dealt with as severely as the rest; but until there is (and no such proof has yet been produced), let no man who values his reputation risk it by affording aid and com fort to the conspirators who have no chance of escape but in getting BRISTOW out of the way.

PERSONAL.

The wife of Colonel Joyce left Jefferson City yesterday with her little family for Washington, D. C. She goes thither in the hope of getting a clerkship for herself.

Saturday was the birthday of Joshua Montgomery Sears, of Boston. Mr. Sears is the son of Joshua Sears, deceased, who left an estate now valued at nearly nine millions of dollars. Mr. Sears is the sole heir to this immense property. He is now a student at Yale College, and is said to be a young man of much intelligence.

The Treasury Department was amazed, Saturday, at the reception of a letter postmarked Lombard street, London, and inclosing an X, which the writer admits belongs in this Government. The puzzle about it is how any one who had succeeded in getting three thousand miles of water between himself and the Government should disposed with a conscience for offenses against it.

Mr. Dorrance Atwater, American Consul at the Society Islands, has married the Tahitan Princess Moetia. The Princess is a very accomplished young lady, speaking English and French as fluently as she does her native language. She is besides wealthy in her own right, being owner of the historical palm groves of Fais and other lands. She is also the lessee of Scilly Island, valuable for its pearl fisheries. Her mother owns half the island of Morea, the paradise of Eimed, as old navigators call it, and extensive possessions on the island of Tahiti.

There is something romantic in the name and family of the Hon. Caroline Norton, and her appearance as a defendant in the English Court of Exchequer the other day caused quite a flutter in that dingy purlieu of the law. People had almost forgotten that the belle and poetess of nearly half a century ago was still in the land of the living. Being sued for an extravagant dressmaker's bill, she went into court and took charge of her defense in person. The venerable lady was accommodated with a seat on the bench, and successfully resisted the charges sought to be forced upon her, at which those to which she objected. The idea of Caroline Norton, who was a favorite toast in the days of Melbourne and Walter Scott, appearing in court in widow's cap and as her own lawyer, has something odd in it.

One very comical incident is related in connection with the wholesale dismissal of old officers of the House of Representatives. Among the discharged ones were a number of disabled Union soldiers of the civil war, whose places were generally filled by ex-rebels. A one-armed victim of this policy, on receiving his walking papers, bethought himself of a comfortable berth in the Interior Department which was to be filled by a Democrat. He lost no time in securing an interview with Secretary Chandler. After hearing the application for a while, the Secretary remarked that there was no vacancy. "But," said the candidate, "there is a Democrat holding office in your department." The name was given, and the Democrat being sent for, speedily made his appearance. "Are you a Democrat?" asked Chandler. "I am, sir," was the reply. "Then," responded the Secretary, "I think you had better swap places with this gentleman." The thing was done on the spot, which was as it should have been.

GENERAL AND PARTICULAR.

The *Confectioners' Journal* is the latest phase of special journalism.

Michigan has 113,413 farms under cultivation, containing 19,213,592 acres.

Swindler is the suggestive name of the principal contractor for the great canal in Colorado.

Judge Virgin belongs to the Supreme Court of Maine. He should hold only maiden assizes.

About 1,400 miles of new railroad will be completed this year, which is much better than was expected.

"There was a sound of revelry by night." Cincinnati proposes to publicly inaugurate the centennial year.

A mercy to be thankful for. The New York managers have refused Tupper's Centennial drama as unfitted to the stage.

Sea-bathing is very popular at Santa Monica, California, just now, and they had a great swimming match Christmas day.

The carnival lunatics of various Southern cities are already preparing for Mardi Gras, which comes this year on the 9th of February.

Died at his post. "Going, going, *gone*," cried a Michigan auctioneer the other day, and as the last word was uttered, dropped dead.

A thornless and fragrant rose. Chauncey Rose, of Terre Haute, has given $2,000,000 within twenty-five years to charitable institutions.

A New York court has just decided that a leased or hired piano may be seized for debt, and dealers are in a quaver of excitement over the matter.

Growth. Thirty-six years ago the first white child was born in Iowa, and he is living now. To-day, there are over half a million Hawkeyes by birth.

The recent earthquake shocks on the parallel running from Washington westward to California, embraced a section hitherto rarely subject to them.

That Jewish fair in New York for the benefit of the Mount Sinai Hospital realized one hundred and ten thousand dollars in cash before adjourning *Sinai die*.

"In a hundred years, millions of men and not a hundred lines of poetry," is Emerson's complaint in one of his recent essays. O, come now; where's Dr. Holland?

An illustration. Of fifty recent ablebodied applicants at the Boston Charity Bureau, only ten were willing to earn a good dinner by sawing wood ten or fifteen minutes.

The "sit down" movement of the saleswomen of New York is growing, and promises to extend to the other large cities of the Union. Hope they'll stand up to it squarely.

Only fifteen applications have been received since the recent vote of the Boston city government to give employment to all applicants at one dollar per day—a fact which speaks for itself.

Mutation. A few days ago two ladies, descendants of three of the most distinguished men whose names are interwoven with the history of the country, were turned out of their home at Washington for nonpayment of rent.

Of Iowa's entire population over sixteen years, only one in one hundred and sixty-eight cannot read. Reason: there are 9,225 public school houses, employing 6,280 male teachers and 10,713 female teachers. The number of scholars is 505,381.

The current number of *Fraser's Magazine* contains a remarkable article by Mr. Blyden, an African negro, taking the ground that Islamism, as the religion of equal rights and impartial justice, is better adapted to the black race than Christianity.

A Hoosier named Musselman appears to have been indulging in some very cheap generosity. After subscribing $5,000, in the shape of a note to the Smithson Institute funds, he repudiated the note when it became due. An honest Moslem would have scorned to be guilty of such a shabby trick.

Practical Christianity. The Children's Aid Society of New York has this year taken care of 13,911 different boys and girls, and supplied 233,410 meals and 176,-261 lodgings. In the 21 day and 13 evening industrial schools of the society were 10,-357 children, who were taught and partly fed and clothed; while 4,026 were sent to good homes, mainly in the West.

Experiments with Iron.

The well-known French chemist, M. Gaillotel, has continued his researches into the absorption of hydrogen by iron, with some interesting results. It appears that, when an iron plate is attacked by sulphuric acid being poured over it, a portion of the hydrogen produced is absorbed by the metal, and the pressure of the gas which is accumulated between two iron plates, welded together, is sufficient to counterbalance a column of mercury thirteen and three-fourths inches high. This singular property of hydrogen, which has also been confirmed, lately, by the investigations of M. Sevoz, is regarded by the latter as a most interesting discovery, and he attributes to the presence of carbon in the hydrogenized gas, the brittleness which some classes of iron manifest when an attempt is made to draw them into wire—a fact well known to workers in this metal.

It is also found that, when decomposing, by the galvanic battery, a solution of chlorate of iron to which sal ammoniac has been added, metallic iron may be collected at the south pole in the form of a brilliant wart, brittle and often hard enough to scratch glass. This iron, after being washed, evolves, either under water or another liquid, numerous bubbles of a gas, which is pure hydrogen. When freely exposed to the air, galvanic iron loses only a portion of its hydrogen; under water, especially water heated to 140 or 150 degrees, the hydrogen is given off with violence. As to the quantity of hydrogen iron thus treated can take up, it seems that, for one volume of iron, the amount is two hundred volumes of gas; in weight, thirteen parts of iron absorb one part of gas. When a lighted match is applied to this iron, saturated with hydrogen, the gas burns like alcohol.

Wealth of the Northern Mexico Mines.

The wealth of the mining interests of Northern Mexico is said to be incalculable and estimates place it greater than any other country for gold, silver, copper, iron, lead, quicksilver, antimony, bismuth, nickel and plumbago. Of these there are prodigious deposits, that await only the application of science to be garnered for the world's use. The authority for these statements declares that there is a formation as peculiar in its characteristics as the Comstock lode, and rich beyond the limit of belief, which extends through the Sierra Madre. He says that in mining experience no highly paying ore has ever been found below two thousand feet, and in consequence the Comstock can last at most for ten years longer, while these Mexican mines offer a field that can be worked for generations and then be scarcely touched. The great advantage that these mines possess over most others is that they are located in the heart of an immense forest that extends 600 miles north and south and 500 miles east and west, so that the timber supply will be unfailing, while mountain streams in every gorge do away with the bugbear of mining—a lack of water. A lack of transportation facilities appears to be the main cause of the non-development of these valuable deposits, but this drawback will soon be removed.

Lady Clerks' Grievances.

"Matron" writes to the Cincinnati *Gazette*: "I hope that a few facts of which I am cognizant may be of avail in inducing our retail merchants to be more considerate of the young women who are in their employ. Not long ago, a lady shopping in one of our dry goods stores, inquired at one of the counters for Miss ——, of one of the clerks. 'Hush!' said one of the others. 'Hush! he will hear you!' pointing to the shop-walker, and then leaning over the counter, she said in low tones: 'Miss —— is lying on the floor at our feet. She dare not complain of fatigue and weakness, lest she should be dismissed, and she is so utterly exhausted that she cannot stand.' *This* speaks for itself. It is known, moreover, that female clerks will, in some instances, declare that articles inquired for are not in the store, because, and only because, one additional step is suffering and distress to them. From the bottom of my heart, and in common with many others, I hope that no simple and human a concession as that of allowing these women to *sit*, when not actually employed in waiting upon customers, may at once be made by our merchants, who only need, I am sure, to have the matter brought under their notice, in order to insure their acting upon the suggestion."

A Merited Compliment.

Among the representative men of the period we are not wrong in placing Colonel Thomas A. Scott in the front rank, if indeed we are not justified in giving him greater precedence. His latest achievement, that of replacing the burned Market street bridge by a handsome structure in three hours less than twenty-one days from the time at which an authorization for the work was obtained, is a feat worthy of especial notice. Men of his vigorous, energetic caliber are an honor to any nation, and we feel it is a duty to place on record our appreciation in behalf of the commercial community of Philadelphia, of the liberality, enterprise and promptitude which has in the present, as in many previous cases, marked the career of this distinguished gentleman. At one o'clock yesterday the new bridge was opened for travel.—*Philadelphia North American*, 25th.

THE CATACOMBS OF PARIS.

A Visit to a Vast Underground City of the Dead.

Grace Greenwood writes from Paris to the New York *Times*: Our party entered the catacombs at the old *Barriere d' Enfer*, an entrance that seems a little like a reverse of proceedings. At this point each visitor, after being provided with a candle, descends nearly a hundred steps of a dark winding stairway to a passage, damp, and of course utterly dark. From here we walked through a perfect labyrinth of other narrow passages, all doubly somber from the heavy coating of candle smoke on the rock overhead—walked for nearly half an hour before coming to the great depository of bones. On each side, all the way through the old quarries, opened other arched passages, leading off into awful distance and darkness—ways barred by chains or marked "dangerous." We passed caverns like "drifts" in mines, and once we came upon a railing surrounding a pit whose gloomy depths we vainly sought to sound with the trembling light of our candles. To those in the rear the effect of the long line of lights flickering, waving, passing in and out of the dark arches, winding and doubling, was something strangely weird and awful. All, I am sure, except those brave young Frenchmen, who kept up their courage with catcalls and cock-crowing, felt oppressed by the very darkness and silence which we were so boldly invading. For our part, we were inclined to speak low, and to watch anxiously each her bit of candle, for no friendly echoes of our voices came back from the gloomy passages, only a dull, warning roar; and the heavy night, beaten back for a little space by our tapers, seemed about to clutch upon and overwhelm them and us. Surely there is a difference between the darkness of ever so somber a spot, which at some time has known daylight, and that of a place which no ray of sunshine has ever reached. The darkness here was of the kind which "can be felt," something menacing, sullen, almost savage—a hopeless blind night which never dreamed of the day. So somber and solitary, so unearthly, though earthly, was all this weary, winding way, bordered with gloom and mystery, that it was a positive relief when we reached the great ossuary. Here, at least, were the representatives of what had once been life: for in these long, wide galleries, these subterranean streets and courts are gathered the bones of 3,000,-000 human beings—the yellow harvest of time, of pestilence, and of revolution. In these dismal *couloirs* stand silent at last the actors of many a fearful tragedy of French history; but out of those eyeless sockets stares such a strange look of watching and waiting and fellowship that it almost seems as though they are ready to rush back on the stormy scene, and take up again the roles of the conspirator and the revolutionist. This gigantic Golgotha, this mighty magazine of death, is arranged with frightful regularity and system. It seems to me that it forms a sort of ghastly complement to the city overhead. The great passages are named after the streets and boulevards whose course they follow, and suggest, by the contrasts of silliness, darkness and immutability, the uproar, the brightness and the rush of the busy day above. They suggest, with more overpowering force, the great dread mystery of death which forever underlies our life. Here, beneath beautiful churches, fragrant with incense, gorgeous with pictures and marbles, beneath altars bright with tapers and gleaming with golden vessels and crucifixes, are chapel-like chambers, cut in the rock, whose air is heavy with the odor of mortality, whose ceilings are darkly frescoed with smoke, on whose rough columns are solemn inscriptions in black lettering, whose walls bear crosses of scalls, set in mosaics of bones. There is even shown here a singular collection, arranged by a celebrated surgeon, of diseased bones—a sort of osseus hospital. The catacombs were consecrated as a burial-place before the first revolution, but the bones—brought from the various cemeteries by night in funeral cars, with religious rites—were shot down a shaft and left in a mighty indistinguishable heap. It was not till the time of Napoleon—the man of order—to bring order out of chaos and to discipline even death—that the present system was adopted and the mass of commingled mortal remains ranged in ranks. Since then inscriptions have been placed over every new section, telling when and from what cemetery they were removed. This is all the distinction now. Here only is real equality and fraternity. Here, side by side, are heads which once toiled at the great problems of science and humanity, and heads that once plotted small thefts and assassinations; heads that once wore coronets, heads that once fell under the knife of the guillotine, heads once pillowed on the breasts of princes, heads that have lain on the black slab of the Morgue. Here are skeleton hands that were once soft and fair and glittering with jewels; strong hands, once full of warm blood; cunning hands of musicians, rude hands of executioners; feet which marched in all the campaigns of Napoleon, feet that trampled the weary waysof wan, that have gone on pious pilgrimages, feet that have danced at the Mabille. Pompadour may here have mingled her bones with those of some gentle Sister of Mercy.

LOVE-CRAZED.

A Kentucky Girl who has Long Awaited an Inconstant Lover.

[From the Dallas (Tex.) Commercial.]

One of the most mournful sights we ever saw, and one of the most touching incidents that ever fell to our lot to witness, took place the other night at Dennison. The train going south was some hours late, and a number of passengers were waiting, with what patience they could, for its arrival. As we entered the ladies' waiting-room we approached a young and very beautiful girl, whose dress, though rich, was considerably disordered. She stepped directly in front of us and fastened her eyes upon our face with the most appealing look in them, gazed for a moment, and then, as if disappointed, sighed and turned away. Her face was one of the most beautiful we have ever seen, and her actions so peculiar that our interest was excited, and we sat down intent upon discovering the cause of her strange actions. Up and down the room she walked, with eyes constantly fixed upon the door, and singing to herself an air so plaintive that it seemed to come from a heart overburdened with sorrow. A middle-aged gentleman sat in one corner of the room, and once or twice he spoke to her and called her to him. She would immediately obey, but hardly would he seat himself before she would spring up again, continue her walk with her eyes fixed upon the door. Presently a gentleman entered, and with a little fluttering cry she sprung forward, and, surveying him, said: "Oh, it is too early, too early." The gentleman seemed as much surprised as we were, and, taking a seat by our side, he remarked on her strange conduct. Just then a lady and gentleman entered, and the maiden exhibited the most intense excitement. She subjected the lady to the closest scrutiny, and evidently not pleased, would toss her head and walk round and round her, once approaching and taking hold of her dress. At this the gentleman who had her in charge came forward, and taking her by the arm, led her to a seat, where she sat with evident reluctance, and singing and crying by turns. Finally she got calmer, and the gentleman allowed her to continue her walk, as she seemed to be uneasy if pot close to the door. By this time our curiosity knew no bounds. We saw the poor girl was demented, and approaching the gentleman we apologized for addressing him, but offered as our apology our curiosity. He said and seemed pleased, and politely told us the following sad, sad story:

I live in Lexington, Kentucky. That poor girl is an orphan, and my niece. She has lived with me about five years, since her parents' death. Two years ago a young man came to our town from Louisiana. He was good looking, well educated, and brought letters of introduction from prominent business men in this city, to several of our best citizens; he soon obtained an *entree* to our society. My niece was attending school, and one of her companions was the daughter of a gentleman to whom this young man had letters; she introduced him, and he soon became their cavalier. For a long time he paid her every attention, and last winter they were engaged; she loved this man with all the fervor of a true woman's heart, and would watch for his coming with the greatest eagerness. Soon after their engagement his visits became less frequent, and he was cool as ice! Oh his manner would chill the very darkness and silence which were so boldly invading. For our part, we were inclined to speak low, and to watch anxiously each her bit of candle, for no friendly echoes of our voices came back from the gloomy passages, only a dull, warning roar; and the heavy night, beaten back for a little space by our tapers, seemed about to clutch upon and overwhelm them and us. Surely there is a difference between the darkness of ever so somber a spot, which at some time has known daylight, and that of a place which no ray of sunshine has ever reached. The darkness here was of the kind which "can be felt," something menacing, sullen, almost savage—a hopeless blind night which never dreamed of the day. So somber and solitary, so unearthly, though earthly, was all this weary, winding way, bordered with gloom and mystery, that it was a positive relief when we reached the great ossuary. Here, at least, were the representatives of what had once been life: for in these long, wide galleries, these subterranean streets and courts are gathered the bones of 3,000,-000 human beings—the yellow harvest of time, of pestilence, and of revolution. In these dismal *couloirs* stand silent at last the actors of many a fearful tragedy of French history; but out of those eyeless sockets stares such a strange look of watching and waiting and fellowship that it almost seems as though they are ready to rush back on the stormy scene, and take up again the roles of the conspirator and the revolutionist. This gigantic Golgotha, this mighty magazine of death, is arranged with frightful regularity and system. It seems to me that it forms a sort of ghastly complement to the city overhead. The great passages are named after the streets and boulevards whose course they follow, and suggest, by the contrasts of silliness, darkness and immutability, the uproar, the brightness and the rush of the busy day above. They suggest, with more overpowering force, the great dread mystery of death which forever underlies our life. Here, beneath beautiful churches, fragrant with incense, gorgeous with pictures and marbles, beneath altars bright with tapers and gleaming with golden vessels and crucifixes, are chapel-like chambers, cut in the rock, whose air is heavy with the odor of mortality, whose ceilings are darkly frescoed with smoke, on whose rough columns are solemn inscriptions in black lettering, whose walls bear crosses of scalls, set in mosaics of bones. There is even shown here a singular collection, arranged by a celebrated surgeon, of diseased bones—a sort of osseus hospital. The catacombs were consecrated as a burial-place before the first revolution, but the bones—brought from the various cemeteries by night in funeral cars, with religious rites—were shot down a shaft and left in a mighty indistinguishable heap. It was not till the time of Napoleon—the man of order—to bring order out of chaos and to discipline even death—that the present system was adopted and the mass of commingled mortal remains ranged in ranks. Since then inscriptions have been placed over every new section, telling when and from what cemetery they were removed. This is all the distinction now. Here only is real equality and fraternity. Here, side by side, are heads which once toiled at the great problems of science and humanity, and heads that once plotted small thefts and assassinations; heads that once wore coronets, heads that once fell under the knife of the guillotine, heads once pillowed on the breasts of princes, heads that have lain on the black slab of the Morgue. Here are skeleton hands that were once soft and fair and glittering with jewels; strong hands, once full of warm blood; cunning hands of musicians, rude hands of executioners; feet which marched in all the campaigns of Napoleon, feet that trampled the weary ways of wan, feet that have gone on pious pilgrimages, feet that have danced at the Mabille. Pompadour may here have mingled her bones with those of some gentle Sister of Mercy.

COMPLIMENTS

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In making selections of Goods for our Special Line of Business for the Holiday Trade of 1875, we are aided by many years' practical experience, and the advantage of extensive dealing. We now offer for the inspection of the public a much greater variety, and more complete assortment than ever, in Rich and Rare, Useful and Beautiful Articles, appropriate for Holiday and Wedding Presents.

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We cordially invite the Public to an examination of our Goods, and shall be most happy to exhibit them to all, whether visitors or purchasers.

E. P. ROBERTS & SONS,

16 FIFTH AVENUE.

NOTICE.

An application will be presented before the Board of Pardons, at its session in January, for the pardon of EMMA PALMERS, convicted at September session, 1875, of receiving stolen goods and sentenced to the Workhouse. 7s-5s

PATENTS.

Persons desiring to procure Patents, or wishing to obtain information from the U. S. Patent Office, are advised to consult F. A. LEHMANN, of Washington, D. C., corner of 7th and G streets, or Room 2, 16 Sixth street Pittsburgh. Send for circular.

A Valuable Medical Treatise.

The edition for 1876 of the sterling Medical Annual, known as Hostetter's Almanac, is now ready, and may be obtained, free of cost, of druggists and general country dealers in all parts of the United States and British America, and indeed in every civilized portion of the Western Hemisphere. It combines, with the soundest practical advice for the preservation and restoration of health, a large amount of interesting and amusing light reading, and the calendar, astronomical calculations, chronological items, &c., are prepared with great care, and will be found entirely accurate. The issue of Hostetter's Almanac for 1876 will probably be the largest edition of a medical work ever published in any country. The proprietors, Messrs. Hostetter & Smith, Pittsburgh, Pa., on receipt of a two cent stamp, will forward a copy by mail to any person who cannot procure one in his neighborhood.

NATIONAL INSURANCE CO.,

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JAMES K. STEVENSON.....Secretary.

Pittsburgh Bank for Savings,

NO. 61 FOURTH AVENUE, PITTSBURGH.

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Open daily from 9 to 4 o'clock, and on SATURDAY EVENINGS, from May 1st to November 1st, 7 to 9 o'clock, and from November 1st to May 1st, 6 to 8 o'clock. Interest paid at the rate of Six Per Cent. computed from the 1st and 15th of each month, and if not withdrawn compounds semi-annually, in January and July. Book of By-Laws, &c., furnished at the office.

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MISCELLANEOUS.

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LEGAL.

IN THE DISTRICT COURT OF THE UNITED STATES FOR THE WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA.

FRANCIS ARDARY, of Pittsburgh, a Bankrupt under Act of Congress of March 2d, 1867, has applied for a discharge from all his debts, and other claims provable under said act, by order of the Court. Notice is hereby given, to all persons who have proved their debts and other persons interested, to appear on the 10th DAY OF JANUARY, 1876, at 10 o'clock A. M., before Register in Bankruptcy, for said District, at his office, No. 98 Diamond street, Pittsburgh, to show cause, if any they have, why a discharge should not be granted to the said Bankrupt.

S. C. MCCANDLESS, Clerk.

WESTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA, ss:

At Pittsburgh, the 21st day of December, A. D. 1875.

The undersigned hereby gives notice of his appointment as Assignee of JOHN ROGERS, of Leechburg, in the county of Armstrong and State of Pennsylvania, and THOMAS J. BURNSIDE, of Allegheny city, in the county of Allegheny and State of Pennsylvania, within said District, who have been adjudged Bankrupts upon their own petition by the District Court of said District.

R. MILLER, JR.,
No. 31 Fourth avenue, Assignee.
Pittsburgh, December 22, 1875.

COMPLIMENTS

JAMES CALDWELL & CO.,

OF THE SEASON!

115 and 117

FEDERAL STREET, ALLEGHENY

MILLINERY, STRAW GOODS, &c.

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R. H. PALMER'S,

105 MARKET STREET.

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WOVEN DRUGGETS,

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NO. 101 FIFTH AVENUE,

Next to U. S. Custom House and Postoffice.

J. & H. PHILLIPS,

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FINANCE AND TRADE.

MONDAY EVENING, December 27, 1875.

Nothing new or especially interesting transpired in financial or commercial circles to-day. Aside from the accumulation of business from the holiday intervening there was not much activity. In mercantile circles very little trade is expected at this season even in ordinary years; much less could much have been looked for in this year of pre eminent dullness and enforced economy. Most merchants are now engaged in footing their accounts and taking their bearings, which, in comparatively few instances, probably, revealed any progress—unless it be "backward." As an Eastern exchange says, it is an admirable time to cultivate the virtues of faith and patience, and many may soon regard themselves rich in experience, if not in money. There is some demand for future loans from those who are providing for their January engagements, but besides that there is little inquiry. The banks, however, are very well content to accumulate funds at this time, and will probably continue to do so up to the close of the week. Rates of discount continue easy, as State banks and private lenders are about able to accommodate all the pressing needs of first-class borrowers.

—The New York *Herald* has the following trenchant review of the past week's operations in the stock market in Lake Shore:

The week on the Stock Exchange has been dull, with a downward tendency in prices. One week ago we intimated the probability of there being a change of management in charge of the machine. The character of the manipulations since then would seem to confirm that theory. At all events, the persons who before were prominent movers have retired, and the mires are now pulled from behind a screen by an invisible hand. Lake Shore, of the railroad shares, has commanded the most attention. The game in this stock has continued to be played without any change other than the substituting of loud talking for the previous large buying. The opening prices were 69½, from which it steadily declined until it sold at 58 on Wednesday. Thursday morning there appeared a circular from Charles Barrett, informed as a "bull" shot, but as it contained nothing but extracts from the reports of the company—the figures on which the stock was "bulled" at 90 in 1873—it was spent when the price reached 59. The failure of a young, active and risky speculator who had in the day before sold some 5,000 shares "short" proved to be a much more effective power than Mr. Barrett's sham, for it carried the price to 59½ in the necessitated buying of the stock which he had failed to deliver. The market dropped to 58¾, although rallied at the close to 59¾. Of Mr. Barrett's figures there is nothing to say except that they were not his, but the company's, and old at that.

Of Western Union Telegraph, the same paper says:

Concerning this stock there seems to be some mystery as yet undeveloped. That a stock which pays eight per cent. dividends, and which the management asserts has a surplus of earnings remaining, should have so steadily declined from what should not be considered a high price, passes the comprehension of the average investor and the fact itself probably adds to the distrust. Among the rumors as signed for the decline are those before referred to, that the company has no friendly relations Baltimore and Ohio and the Pennsylvania Railroad lines. The latter rumor was renewed on Friday, with the let of January named as the days on which the wires would be transferred to the Atlantic and Pacific Company. It was also stated that with the change the latter company would make a material reduction in the charges to all patrons.

—The Baltimore *Sun* notices a singular law case decided before the Circuit Court of Washington county, in that State, which seems to show that a bank officer mixing investments in valueless securities is liable for the loss. It was given in evidence that in 1871 Mrs. Susan Weckler asked the First National Bank to cash a draft on New York for $1,000. The teller, being told by her that she wished to invest $1,000 in Washington county bonds, advised her that a better investment, and one in which Dr. Smith, her family physician, had $10,000, would be in Northern Pacific Railroad bonds, which have since depreciated to about 15 cents on the dollar. Mrs. W. did so invest. The action was brought against the teller of the bank to recover the amount invested under deceitful representation. The statement as to Dr. Smith's investments proved to be correct, and his jury gave a verdict in Mrs. Weckler's favor. The defendant's counsel contended the allegations of deceit, and said that at that time the railroad bonds were in good sale and esteemed as an excellent investment. The case was taken to the Court of Appeals, which affirmed the rulings of the court below in the decision, if truly reported, is of much importance, and is calculated to revive the hopes of despondent holders of Northern Pacific and other depreciated bonds, as well as to excite alarm among dealers and others upon whose sale such investments were made. A word of explanation is necessary in this case. The lower court charged indicted that the defaulted purchasers of valueless securities may recover back their lost money. Although the report of the decision does not so inform us, it is manifest that under the general law regarding investments the investments of value the teller would not have been liable, and that others are not liable under similar circumstances, but for the false statement of the alleged fact—which was not a fact —that Dr. Smith had made a purchase of the bonds. The rule is that buyers must depend upon their own judgment as to the value of a thing they purchase, and in the absence of states circumstances bearing upon the question of value he may be held liable on his representation.

—The first symptom of an important change in the tendency of financial trade affairs, says the Chicago *Inter-Ocean* of December 24, are noticeable to-day. The country demand for currency has fallen off to a great extent, and the aggregate shipment of currency to the country this evening will probably be less than half as much as it has been any day for the past week. This is, of course, partly in anticipation of the holiday interruption of business. After to-morrow there will be two holidays together, then a broken week's business, and then two more holidays. Altogether, the business of the next nine or ten days will be small compared to the last ten, and in view of this we should expect to see a large decrease of the flow of currency from the East to the West. Another point to be considered is that there has already been an immense amount of currency sent into the country in ten days at least $4,000,000 of currency has been sent out. Some also has been received back, but the net outgo of currency to the country in that time has probably been over $3,000,000. Currency, of course, is used for scarcely anything else but to pay the farmers for grain delivered or their cattle and hogs. Judging by the large proportion of this currency that has gone through the Merchants' National Bank and from other banks to the hog and corn raising sections of the country, there should be at least three fourths of the currency sent out would be paid for hogs and corn. It will circulate in those districts, and as each dollar will make many payments, it is possible that there is currently supposed to be more than nearly market the whole crop. The stock of currency here has been drawn down so low by the drain to the country that the stock of the banks are still ordering from New York. There has also been a disposition on the part of some savings banks to strengthen their currency resources.

—The following table shows the prices of gold, Government bonds, railway stocks, etc., at the various sessions of the New York Stock Exchange during the day, furnished by the Fifth National Bank, No. 16 Sixth street:

December 27, 1875.	10:30 A.M.	11:30 A.M.	12:30 P.M.	1:30 P.M.	2:30 P.M.	3:30 P.M.
U. S. 6's, 1881, coup.	125⅝	125⅝	125⅝	125⅝	125⅝	125⅝
5-20's, 1865, coupons	118⅝	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5-20's, 1865, new	119⅛	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5-20's, 1867, registered	118⅝	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5-20's, 1867, coupons	119⅛	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
5-20's, 1868	122	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
10-40's	116⅝	.....	116⅝	.....	.....	.....
10-40's, coupons	117⅝	.....	117⅝	.....	.....	.....
Currency 6's	122½	.....	122½	.....	.....	.....
New 5 per cents	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Western Union Tel	72¼	72¼	72⅜	72⅝	73	73
Quicksilver	.....	36½	36½	.....	.....	.....
Pacific Mail	40¾	40¾	40¾	40¾	40¾	40¾
Panama	120	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Adams Express	.....	100	.....	100	.....	.....
Wells-Fargo Ex	93	.....	.....	93	.....	.....
American Ex.	.....	61½	.....	61½	.....	.....
United States Express	.....	61½	.....	61½	.....	.....
New York Central	104⅝	.....	.....	.....	.....	104⅝
Erie	15⅝	15⅝	.....	15⅝	15⅝	15⅝
Michigan Central	.....	39½	.....	39½	.....	39½
Michigan Southern	39½	39⅝	.....	39⅝	39⅝	39⅝
Illinois Central	.....	96	.....	96	.....	.....
Clev., & Pittsburgh	.....	89	.....	89	.....	.....
Pittsburgh & Fort Wayne's	.....	38½	.....	38½	.....	38½
Do preferred	.....	55	.....	55	.....	55
Rock Island	105¾	.....	105¾	.....	.....	105¾
St. Paul, common	.....	34½	.....	34½	.....	34½
Do preferred	.....	65⅞	65⅞	66	.....	66
Wabash, common	34	.....	34	.....	.....	.....
Fort Wayne	.....	.....	97¾	.....	.....	97¾
Ohio & Mississippi	16	16	16⅛	16⅛	16⅛	16⅛
Union Pacific	73	.....	73⅛	.....	.....	73⅛
Harlem	130	.....	.....	.....	.....	130½
Hannibal & St. Jos.	20¾	.....	20¾	.....	20¾	.....
Atlantic & P., pref'd	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
C., C. & I. C.	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Missouri Pacific	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
North Carolina, Ap.	.....	.....	34	.....	.....	.....
South Carolina, July	.....	.....	34	.....	.....	.....
Missouri 6's	.....	.....	100	.....	.....	.....

—The following table is the report of the prices of leading stocks on the Philadelphia Stock Board, as received by wire at noon to-day:

Stocks.	Bid.	Asked.	Sales.
Pennsylvania Central	.....	.....	92
Reading	.....	.....	55
United Co's of N. J.	134	135	.....
Oil Creek	10½	11	.....
Lehigh Valley	61¾	62	.....
Allegheny Valley	94½	95¼	.....
Central Transp'n Co.	49½	50	.....
P. C. & St. L., pr. lien	77½	79½	.....

[By Associated Press.]

Gold Closes at 112⅝.

NEW YORK, December 27.—Money loaned at 6@7 per cent., closing at 6@7. Prime mercantile paper 6@8 per cent. Customs receipts $156,000. The Assistant Treasurer disbursed $594,000. Clearings $22,000,000. Sterling 48@48¼.

GOLD.

Gold opened and closed at 112⅝; the two extremes of the day having been 112 and 112⅝. The market was very flat during the morning in consequence of the anticipation of the January interest by the Treasury, but in the afternoon a firmer feeling set in and prices recovered to 112. Rates paid for carrying were 3-32 2⅝, 1 and 5 per cent.

STOCKS AND BONDS.

Government bonds steady and a fraction lower. The leading features of the railroad bonds market this afternoon were an active demand for Union Pacific securities. State bonds quiet. Stocks were strong and higher; the advance ranging from ¼ to 1¾ per cent. Union Pacific was the most conspicuous in the advance, rising from 73 to 74¾, and closing at the highest point. Pacific Mail was more active, and rose from 39¾ to 40¾, with the closing sales at 40¾. Lake Shore, after selling down to 58¾, became firm and rose to 59¾@59¾, a gain of ¾. Michigan Central was firm and advanced from 39 to 39¾. Missouri Pacific was prominent in the upward movement, and advanced from 12 to 13¾. The other Western shares participated in the improvement. Northwestern common rising to 55¾, preferred to 65¾. St. Paul to 34¾, preferred to 66. Ohio and Mississippi to 16¾. Hannibal and St. Joseph to 20¾, preferred to 37 and Wabash to 34¾. Erie rose from 72 to 73 and was strong. Erie advanced to 15¾ and New York Central to 104⅝. Transactions at the Stock Exchange 76,000 shares, of which 13,000 were Pacific Mail, 13,000 Western Union, 3,400 Erie and 23,000 Lake Shore. The following were the closing quotations:

STOCKS.			
W. U. Telegraph	72¾	Rock Island	104⅝
Pacific Mail	40¾	St. Paul	34½
Mariposa	.....	Do preferred	66
Do preferred	68	Toledo & Wabash	37¼
Adams Express	100	Do preferred	85
Wells Fargo Ex	93	Fort Wayne	97¾
American Ex	57	Terre Haute	8
United States Ex	61¼	Do preferred	.....
New York Central	104⅝	Chicago & Alton	97½
Erie	15¾	Do preferred	105½
Do preferred	31	Ohio & Mississippi	15¾

Harlem	130½	Delaware & Lack	120
Do preferred	130	Atlantic & Pac Tel	18
Mich. Central	39¾	Indiana Central	3¾
Panama	120	Illinois C. & Quincy	112
Lake Shore	59¾	Hannibal & St. Joe.	20¾
Illinois Central	96½	Union Pac. stock	74¾
Clev. & Pitts	89	Cen. Pac. bonds	107½
Northwestern	38¾	Union Pac. bonds	105¾
Do preferred	55¾	Do land grant	100¾
C. C. & I.	72	Do sink. fund bds	95¾
N. J. Central	104¾		

GOVERNMENTS.

U. S. coupons, 1881	125⅞	New 5's	116½
5-20's, 1865	115¾	10-40's registered	116¾
5-20's, 1865, new	119¾	10-40's coupons	117¾
5-20's, 1867	122	Currency 6's	122½
5-20's, 1868	122		

STATE BONDS.

Tennessee, old	41	Virginia, old	37½
Tennessee, new	38¾	Missouri 6's	102½
Virginia, new	37		

NEW ORLEANS, December 27.—Gold 112¾. Sight discount. Sterling 50½ for commercial; 349 @349½ for bank.

GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } MONDAY, December 27, 1875. }

The feeling in commercial circles after the two days suspension of business was rather quiet. In groceries and one or two similar branches of business, there was a moderately good volume of transactions; but the general perception of business men at present is comprised in closing accounts and preparing for the settlements of the first of the year, so that the buying and selling operations of our city are comparatively quiet. The grain and produce commission lines were sluggish and unsatisfactory at unchanged prices.

The quotations given in the following reports are prices realized in wholesale transactions, unless otherwise specified. On small sales dealers will charge an advance. Prices of grain, unless stated to the contrary, are free of elevator.

Grain, Flour and Feed.

GRAIN—There was an exceedingly quiet market with nothing of especial interest to note. Wheat was quiet and steady at about former prices, as follows: Michigan white wheat $1 38@1 40 ₩ bushel; Pennsylvania and Ohio do $1 36@1 37; Northwestern red $1 25@1 32; prime do $1 35@1 36; Illinois do $1 30@1 32; low grade do $1 21@1 25; rejected do $1 00@1 10, as to quality. Corn was in some request, but unchanged in price. We note sales of 2 cars shelled, new, at 53c. We quote new ear at 44@46c for mixed; 51@54c for choice yellow; new shelled 52@54c for choice. Oats were steady with sales of 1 car Ohio white at 36c; 1 car do in sacks at 42c. We quote choice Western white at 44@45c ₩ bushel; prime do 43@44c; ohio and Pennsylvania do 41@43c; dark to light mixed 39@40c. Barley—Canada $1 20@1 25 ₩ bushel; choice spring $1 18@1 22; common to prime do $1 00@1 15; inferior to fair $1 00@1 10. Sales of 1 car at 90c. Rye—$1 03@1 05 ₩ bushel for prime. Mixed feed—Prices of corn and oats rule 3@5c above quotations.

FLOUR—There continues to be a moderately active trade in the various qualities of well known and established brands, while the large offerings of low grades are entirely dropped from the market at low prices. We quote the wholesale prices of the local millers as follows: Superfine white wheat flour $5 00 ₩ bbl; No. 2 amber do $7 50; red wheat flour $7 25; in sacks 25c off ₩ bbl. The jobbing prices of the leading dealers are substantially as follows: Prices are steady as follows: Choice brand of white winter wheat flour $8 75@9 00; well known brand of family flour $7 00@7 25; Wisconsin is quoted at $6 50@6 75; Minnesota $6 75@7 00; fancy St. Louis $8 00@8 50; choice patents $8 50@9 00; new process $8 00@8 25; fancy Spring $7 50@7 75; choice do $7 00@7 25; family flour $6 50@6 75; straight do $6 00@6 25; spring wheat extra $5 50@5 75; low grade do $4 50@5 25 ₩ bbl; Rye flour $5 25 ₩ bbl.

HAY—Under the influence of a liberal supply the market has ruled lower for the week, with no demand except for prime grades. We quote prime No. 1 timothy, on track, at $18 00@19 00 ₩ ton; No. 2 $17 00@17 50; mixed $15 00@16 00. Sales from store were steady at $21 00@23 00.

MILL FEED—The overstocked and depressed condition of the latter continues and prices are heavily shaded. We quote bran at 80@90c ₩ cwt; coarse middlings $1 00@1 10 ₩ cwt; fine do $1 05@1 15 ₩ cwt; corn meal in round lots $1 40 ₩ cwt; chopped feed $1 25@1 30.

Country Produce.

APPLES—Holders are not indisposed to realize as the stock is large and some fears are entertained of the stock in all cases keeping in good order. Prices are easy but quotably unchanged. Choice eating apples rule at $4 50@5 00 ₩ bbl; fair to good do $3 50@4 00; common to medium grades in light demand at $2 50@3 00.

BUCKWHEAT FLOUR—We quote buckwheat flour firm and stronger at $5 00@5 25 ₩ cwt.

BUTTER—There continues to be a steady demand for the choicest grades of table butter at full prices, while medium grades are rather neglected. The rulings of the country are as follows: Strictly choice $2 30@2 35; fair to good 23@25c; common to fair 15@22c.

CHEESE—The market continues to move rather slowly but steadily for prime qualities, with a fair to good demand for common to medium receipts. We quote prime Ohio factory at 13¼@14c ₩ lb for September; New York Goshen 14@14½c; Switzer 16@18c; Limburger 16@17c; quarters and rates irregular.

DRIED FRUIT—Dried fruits are in steady demand at former quotations, as follows: Bright apples, sliced, 12@13c; Bright apples, quarters, 11@12c; Bellflowers, 11@12c; Peaches, pealed, 20@22c; Blackberries 14c; Huckleberries 15@22c; Raspberries 24@25c; Cherries, pitted, 20@22c; Cherries, unpitted, 8 @9c.

EGGS—The supply was liberal and the market was easy. Quotations for strictly fresh are 27@27½c per dozen; pickled are in good supply and dull at 24@25c.

GAME—There was an abundant supply and the market was decidedly depressed. We quote: Venison at 18c per pound for short saddles; 15@16c for long saddles; whole deer 10@12c per pound; Rabbits sold at 20@25c per dozen; prairie squirrels are not wanted at any price; quoted nominally at $1 00@1 10 per dozen. Quail were quoted at $1 75@2 00 ₩ dozen; prairie chickens $4 00@4 50 per dozen; prairie chickens $4 00@4 50 per dozen; partridges $3 50@4 00.

HONEY—New domestic honey is steady at 25 @28c ₩ lb. Comb is quoted at 30@35c ₩ lb.

HORSE—Business in hops is only for present use and prices continue depressed. Choice 1875 rule at 18c, while medimums are held at lower prices.

MINCE MEAT—Prices are quoted at 10¼@11c ₩ lb.

NUTS—The supply is liberal and the market steady. Chestnuts rule at $4 00@4 50 ₩ bushel; peanuts are in fair request at easy prices; prime white Tennessee nuts rule at 6@ 6½c, according to quality; Virginia, 7¼@8c; shellbarks are easy at $1 25@1 50 ₩ bushel; walnuts depressed at $2 00@2 50 ₩ bushel; hazel nuts $3 50@4 00 ₩ bushel.

POTATOES—The trade in round lots was weak. While from store the market was steady. We quote for round lots on track at 30@35c for Peerless and Early Rose; 60@65c for Prime; peerlesses, from store, 40@45c; the latter is quite easy market at 47@50c ₩ bushel.

POULTRY—The market was neither firm under the influence of cool weather. Quotations are rather nominal, transactions being largely made on a shaded prices. Live chickens are quoted at 4½@5c ₩ pair; live turkeys 7c@9 25; live ducks 6@7c; live geese 70@75c; dressed poultry were active and firmer; chickens 14@15c ₩ lb; turkeys 14@16c; ducks 14@15c. Geese 20@22c.

SEEDS—Flax seed is quiet at $1 55@1 60; timothy seed is jobbing at $2 75@2 80 ₩ bushel. Clover seed is dull.

VEGETABLES—Onions are in large stock and dull. We quote at $1 20@1 40 ₩ barrel. Dried green peas are quoted at $1 60@1 70 ₩ bushel.

Groceries.

The market for staple groceries was moderately active to-day, with a fair demand for immediate sales only. The tendency of the trade and that season is toward quiet. Prices are quotably unchanged, as follows:

Green Coffees.	₩ lb.	*Sugars.*	₩ lb.
Fancy Rio	25	c Standard A	10½@
Choice Rio	24	c Standard B	10@
Prime Rio	24	c Do. extra C	10@
Good Rio	24	c C—yellow	9½@
Ordinary Rio	24	c C—yellow	9@
Roasted Coffees.			
Rio, in papers	30@32½	c Crushed	11½@
Rio, in bulk	25	c Granulated	11½@
2d grades do	25@27½	c *Powdered*	11½@
Java, in papers	36	c Granulated	11½@
Java, in bulk	33½@	c *Molasses.*	₩ gall.
Teas.		Sugar cane	60@
Young Hyson	50c@$1 00	*Syrups.*	
Gunpowder	50c@1 00	Ex. white drips	70c
Imperial	50c@1 00	Sugar drips	60c
Japan	50c@1 00	Lower grades	35@50c
Oolong	50c@1 00	*Starch.*	₩ lb.
Fancy	1 00	Pearl	6½@7c
Souchong	25c@ 80	Silver gloss	9½@
Spices.		Corn	7½@
Cloves	60	*Rice.*	
Alspice	18@19 c	Choice Carlin	7½@8 c
Cassia	33@35	Prime Carolina	7½@8
Nutmegs	@1 35	Rangoon	7½@7½c
Pepper	22	Louisiana	7 c
Soda.		*Scales.*	
Bi-carb, in kegs	5 c	Irish soap, ₩ box	@1 25
Bi-carb, in ½ pkgs	5½c	S. S. Star, ₩ box	@1 75
Bi-carb, in 1 papers	7 c	Babbitt's best, ₩ box	8 00
		Babbitt's 1776, ₩ box	6 00
Candles.		Co. & Co's Gilt, ₩ box	4 50
Star, full weight	18 c	German mottled do	3½c
Stearine	16@17c	German mottled do	3½c
Adamantine	20@22 c		

FOREIGN FRUITS—There is a fairly active business at unchanged prices. We quote: Raisins —New, in bbls, new at $2 25; London layers do at $4 50; Valentine, new, 13½@14c ₩ lb; Sultanas 20@22c; Cabinet, 12½@13c; Imperial, 11½@12c. Prunes 7½@8½c. Almonds—Languedoc 28c; do shelled 38c; do Princess 37c; do Jordan, new, 18 @19c. Filberts 14c. Walnuts—Naples 16c; French do 16c; Sicily filberts 15c. Smyrna figs 18@20c. Brazil nuts 10c. Macaroni 18@18c. Tapioca 7@8c. Lemons—Messina, ₩ box, $7 00. Cocoanuts $7 00 per hundred.

Provisions.

The provision trade continues to move steadily and unchanged rates, and without special features to note.

BACON—We quote shoulders at 10½c ₩ lb. prices for sides are nominal as follows: clear rib sides 11¾c; clear sides 12¼c.

HAMS—We quote plain sugar-cured easy at 16c; sugar-cured shoulders 11¾@12c; breakfast bacon is quoted at 16c; dried beef easy at 14½@ 15¼c; beef tongues, per dozen, $7 00; lard sausage 10c.

MESS PORK—The market is easy but not quotably lower. We quote at $22 50@22 75 per bbl.

LARD—We quote prime lard, refined, in fierces, ₩ lb 10¾@11c; half bbls do 11¼@11½c; in buckets, 11¾@12c; in 3 lb cadties, 11c; in 5 lb cadties, 10¾@11c; in 10 lb pails, 10¾c; in 5 lb do 11c; in 2 lb do, 11¼c.

LARD OIL—The market is easy. We quote extra No. 1, in barrels, 90c; family, 95c; standard 1 10 per gallon; No. 1 do, 85c; No. 2, 75c.

TALLOW—We quote chandlers' barrels at 10@ 10¼c; choice country rendered 9@9½c; medium do 7½@8c.

Petroleum.

December 28.—The market opened quiet and without very active business. There was no material change either in crude or refined, and the day was without news of importance to report.

CRUDE—There was a quiet but steady market, with some demand. Sales at 91 42½@ 1 42½; United and Union do $1 41¾@1 42¾; immediate shipment $1 40.

REFINED—The market was quiet with the tendency rather favorable to buyers. We quote standard white in car load lots at 10c for prompt; 10½c for early January. New York rules at 12¾@12½c for prompt. Philadelphia is quoted at 12¾c for spot. Baltimore rules at 12¾@12½c.

OIL BARRELS—Are steady and unchanged at $1 15@1 20 for city; $1 10 for country.

[By Western Union Telegraph.]

PHILADELPHIA, December 27.—Market, quiet; standard white 12½c; crude 7½c; cases 10½c.

PARKERS, December 27.—Market quiet; United $1 42½; shipment $1 40.

TITUSVILLE, December 27.—Market quiet but firm at $1 40.

OIL CITY, December 27.—Market quiet but firm at $1 40.

ROUSEVILLE, December 27.—Market quiet and steady; quoted at $1 40.

TIDIOUTE, December 27.—Market quiet; held at $1 42½.

[By Associated Press.]

NEW YORK, December 27.—Petroleum—Crude 7½c; refined 12¾@13c; cases 19@19½; naptha 8¾@8½c.

PHILADELPHIA, December 27.—Petroleum nominal; crude in barrels 10½c; refined 12½c.

BALTIMORE, December 27.—Petroleum dull; crude 7@7½c; refined 12½c.

CLEVELAND, December 27.—Petroleum firm and unchanged; standard white, 110 degrees test, 9½c; Ohio State test 10½c; Michigan State test 10c in car lots, cash.

General Merchandise.

ASHES—The demand is sluggish and the market very dull at easy prices as follows: X $3 00 per barrel; XX $10 00 ₩ barrel; domestic ale, in bottles, $1 50@1 75 per dozen; India ale $11 00 ₩ barrel; Bass' English ale, in kilderkins of 22 gallons, $23 00; barrels, 41 gallons, $30 00; hhds, 64 gallons, $35 00; in cases, dozen bottles, $23 75; William Younger's India pale ale, in cases of 8 dozen bottles, $2 75@3 00 per dozen; Robert Younger's sparkling ale $2 75@ 3 00 ₩ dozen; Guinness' stout, $3 00@3 25 ₩ dozen; Caldwell & Cochrane's ginger ale $2 75 ₩ dozen; Thorncroft Chaswell, Hazard & Co.'s ginger ale $1 75 ₩ dozen.

ALCOHOL AND HIGHWINES—The market is easier. We quote alcohol at 92 30@2 35 ₩ gallon. Highwines are easy at $1 15@1 16 ₩ gallon.

BAGS AND BAGGING—There is a sluggish demand at steady prices. We quote: Extra gunny bags 23c; do second hand 22c; Union bags 24c; American A's 23c; Philadelphia A's 23c; California grain bags 9c; English do 12c; Dom. Mill 2 bushel 42c; do 3½ bushel 38c; do 2 bushel 30c; Allegheny 2 bushel do 26c.

BAGGING POWDER—Quoted as follows: ¼ ₩ cent $1 50 ₩ dozen; ½ cents $2 00; 1 cents $5 50; 5 lb cans $29 00; 10 lb boxes 40c ₩ lb. Market steady and demand good.

BROOMS AND BROOM CORN—Broom corn is in moderate demand at unchanged values. We quote: Hurl $2 50@3 00; No. 1 hurl, medium 10@11c; green stock brand 10½@11c; green handle and covers 10½@11c; green brush corn 11½@12c; pale and brilliant range from 12@ 3c ₩ lb less than above. There is a fair trade in brooms at former prices. We quote: Common to fair prices as follows: No. 3, common, $2 25; No. 3, hurl, $2 50; No. 4, hurl, $3 00; No. 5, hurl, $3 25; No. 6, hurl, $3 50; No. 5, carpet, $2 75; No. 6, carpet, $4 00; fancy parlor, $5 25; steamboat brooms $3 50@4 00; whisks, plain, $1 25@1 75; whisks, fancy, $1 50@2 00; toy brooms, $1 25@ 2 00.

CEMENT—The dull season in this line is in full sway and prices are quite nominal with very little doing. Quotations are as follows: Louisville hydraulic cement $2 00@2 25 ₩ bbl; Phœnix hydraulic cement $1 75@2 00 ₩ bbl; Rosendale cement $3 00@3 50; Youghiogheny $1 75@2 25; Portland cement $5 50@7 00; White lime—Sandusky $7 00@7 75 ₩ bbl; Cleveland $6 00@6 75; Gibsonburg $4 00@5 00; cement $1 65@1 75; Eastern white lime $1 40@1 50; per ton; Calcined plaster—French $4 00@5 25 ₩ bbl; Eastern brands $3 50@3 75 ₩ bbl; Michigan $3 50@3 75; Western brands $3 00@3 25.

COFFEE—Trade quiet; steadily, and only moderate supply of orders at unchanged prices. We quote as follows:

Brazil coffee, in bond or free, on cut to order; over 12 lbs sheets (or 1 lb to square foot).....31c
Brazil coffee, in bond or free, on cut to order; under 12 lbs sheets (or 1 lb to square foot).....31c
Brazil coffee, in bond or free, on cut to order; under 12 oz per square foot and under.....30c
Brazil coffee, in bond or free, on cut to order; under 10 oz per square foot and under.....29c
Copper circles, seamless, plain and over.....29c
Copper circles, seamless, bottoms and sides.....30c
Forkettles, &c.....30c
(In addition to above prices for sheathing copper, tinned or plain, 1¼ lb 48 in. wide, 1 cent ₩ lb.)
Sheathing copper, tinned or plain, (14 lb 48 in. wide).....40c
Locomotive Fire Box Sheets and Bolts.....31
Soldering coppers less discount for quality.....33
Copper bottoms, 14 oz and heavier.....30
PATENT PLANISHED COPPER, TINNED OR PLAIN
Sheathing size, 14x48 less than case.....35
Sheathing size, 14x48 case and over.....36
Boiler sizes, and 14x72 less than case.....39
Boiler sizes, and 14x72 case and over.....38
30 inches wide, (19 in. 14x60).....40
36 inches wide and over (19 in. 14x60).....40
Sheets 12 oz. and lighter, under 20 in. wide.....40
Sheets 12 oz. and lighter, over 20 in. wide.....40
Tinning, sheets 14x48, by the case, per sheet.....8
Tinning, boiler sizes, 9 m., per sheet.....15
Tinning, boiler sizes, 9 m., per sheet.....15

BIRDS AND LEATHER—There is a steady but not very active trade in birds and fancy feather. The volume is much below what it was a month ago, and the sales are confined to a hand-to-mouth character to supply immediate wants. We quote:

Leather.			
Oak Sole, country, ₩ lb		32@	3
Oak Sole, city, ₩ lb		32@	3
Oak Sole, Philadelphia, ₩ lb		32@	3
Red Sole, E. A., ₩ lb		30@	31
Red Sole, Quincy, ₩ lb		30@	31
Slaughter, ₩ lb		28@	4
Buffalo, ₩ lb		28@	3
Hemlock, ₩ lb		28@	3
Black, bridle, ₩ doz		$40 00@	2
Fair Harness, ₩ doz		44 00@	2
Oak Harness, country, ₩ lb		31@	3
Oak Harness, city, ₩ lb		32@	3
Hand Leather, ₩ lb		36@	4
Kip Leather, ₩ lb		60@	1
Finished Kip, ₩ lb		70@	1
Calf and Upper, ₩ foot		75@	1
No. 1 Buffs, ₩ doz			

Hides.			
Green Bulls and Stags, ₩ lb			4 c
Green Cows, Heifers and Steers under 60 lbs			5 c
Green Steers, 60 lbs and over			6 c
Green Steers over 85 lbs			8 c
Green Calf, 15 to 25 lbs			8 c
Green Calf, 25 to 35 lbs			9 c
Green Salt Kip			9@10 c
Green Salt Calf, 8 to 15 lbs			10@12 c
Green Salt Hides, light			6@7 c
Green Salt Steers, heavy			10@10½ c
Dry Flint nominal			14@18 c

UNPLANED LUMBER.

Clear, ₩ M	$30 00
Second common	26 00
Third common	20 00
Sheeting	16 00
Hemlock joists and scantling	16 00

PLANED LUMBERS.

Clear	35 00
Flooring boards	30 00
Partition boards	30 00
Siding on both sides	30 00
Shelving on one side	26 00
Moulded weatherboarding	28 00
Rabbited weatherboarding	28 00
Half-inch panel planed	21 00
Half-inch unplaned	17 00
Twelve-inch vertical, with stripe	28 00
Oak and yellow pine flooring boards	30 00

SHINGLE AND LATH.

Shingles, 18-inch, XXX	4 75
Lath	2 00

OILS—We quote jobbing prices as follows: Neatsfoot oil, pure, per gallon, 95@1 00; miners' oil, 75@90c; lard oil, 110 degrees fire test, 75@85c; carbon, 110 degrees fire test, 15@16c; pale and brilliant range from 12@13c; No. 2 engine (amber color), 50c; extra engine (dark), 35@40c; spindle oil, 50c; West Virginia, 32 degrees test, 30@35c; West Virginia, 25c; natural lubricating, 28 degrees gravity, 18@20c; carbon oil, No. 1, 16c per gal.; No. 2, 12c; amber burning or torch oil 140 fire test 10c; residuum (prepared), $4 00; residuum (common), $3 00; saxle grease, $3 00@3 50; lubricating mill grease, ₩ pound, 7c; bleached winter white oil 80c; straits oil, for tanners, 83@85c; linseed oil—Market steady. Raw, in bbls, 86@ 87c; boiled 70c; spirits turpentine 47@50c.

HOPS—The market is very quiet and depressed. We quote new crop at 18@20c per pound for spot.

PAPER—Rating paper 16@6c ₩ lb, as to quality manilla, 7@15c; hardware papers 6@12c; rag wrapping paper, 6@8½c; straw paper, 1½@2½c; news, 2@7½c; rag news, 1½@2½c; book paper 14@ 18c ₩ lb.

RICE—Cotton mixed at 2¾@3c ₩ lb; and wool on at 5@6c.

SCOTCH POLISH—Sales made at $6 50 ₩ gross.

SAPOLIO—Cases of 6 dozen, $6 00; hand sapolio, cases of 6 dozen, $5 00.

SALT—The market is easy, with a slightly improved demand. We quote jobbing prices a ₩ bbl as follows: No. 1, $2 50 for extra do, $2 40 for dairy. Liverpool salt repacked in large sacks of 220 lbs, $2 50 per sack; dairy salt in small sacks $1 00 ₩ bbl.

WOODEN WARE—Trade is sluggish at reduced quotations. We quote Pittsburgh rates, make as follows: Two-hooped patent buckets, ₩ dozen, $1 70; three-hooped buckets, ₩ dozen, $1 90; 3 tubs, three hoops, ₩ dozen, $6 50; No. 2 tubs, two hoops, ₩ dozen, $5 50; No. 3 tubs, two hoops, ₩ dozen, $4 50; washboards, patent crimp, ₩ dozen, $2 65; washboards, common, ₩ dozen, $2 25; clothes pins, round head, ₩ box, 20c.

LIVE STOCK MARKETS.

Union Drove Yards, Allegheny.

OFFICE OF THE PITTSBURGH COMMERCIAL, } MONDAY, December 27, 1875. }

Christmas, this year, has had a marked effect upon the live stock market for the time. Instead of luscious roasts and juicy chops, people rather prefer fat turkeys or tender goose. The result was that Christmas stock went begging, or what is about the same, and was shipped East, after failing to find purchasers here.

CATTLE.

There was no

CITY MATTERS.

For eighty-five cents per month the DAILY COMMERCIAL will be mailed to travelers or to subscribers who are temporarily absent from Pittsburgh. The address of the paper will be changed as often as is desired.

Local Observations.

OFFICE OF THE OBSERVER, U. S. SIG. SERV. Room 28, First National Bank; PITTSBURGH, PA., December 28, 1875.

Time.	Bar	Th'r.	Hum	WIND. Dir.	Force.	Weath.
7 A. M.	30.226	35	71	N.	Fresh.	Cloudy
2 P. M.	30.302	37	54	N.	Fresh.	Cloudy
9 P. M.	29.570	31	93	N. E.	Light.	Clear.

Mean barometer...30.346 Highest thermom....36
Mean thermom.... 33.5 Lowest thermom....29
Rainfall..... 04

Iron City College.

corner Penn avenue and Sixth street. Open day and evening. Students received at any time. For terms, call or address J. C. Smith, A.M., Principal.

The Pittsburgh Female College

will reopen January 3. Charges reduced. Room for six more boarders. Apply to Rev. I. C. Pershing, Pittsburgh, Pa.

Ohio River Improvement.

A public meeting will be held Friday morning in the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce, at which Col. Merrill will give his views on the important subject of river improvements. He will dwell particularly on the matter of the proposed locks and dams in the Ohio.

The High Water.

At ten o'clock last night the Monongahela had risen to twenty-one feet and was at a stand. At the Exposition building the water had reached Power Hall, and was about four feet above the floor of the basement. The Connelly fire extinguisher building was nearly covered by water.

Killed by a Fall.

About half-past five o'clock last evening James W. Wilson, residing in Temperanceville, Thirty-sixth ward, while walking on the sidewalk near his house, tripped and fell, his head striking a stone. He was carried into his house in an insensible condition and died in a few minutes after the accident. An inquest was held and the jury found that death was caused by concussion, produced by the fall. Deceased was a roller by occupation, was forty-eight years old, and leaves a wife and six children.

Allegheny Committees.

Three committees of Allegheny Councils—City Property, Printing, and Survey—met last evening.

The City Property Committee awarded the contract for grading the lot, on Martin street, for the new Hope engine house, to George Bothwell, at twenty-five cents per yard.

The Printing Committee did nothing besides approving a number of small bills.

The Survey Committee approved the engineer's pay-roll, amounting to $100.

Held for Manslaughter.

Before Alderman Burke, yesterday, a hearing was had in the case of the boy Bowman, charged with the murder of the boy Little, whose death occurred some days ago. District Attorney Mostooth appeared for the prosecution, and Mr. Mills for the defense. For the prosecution several witnesses of the affair were examined and stated the facts as heretofore published. For the defense no testimony was offered, and the defendant was committed to jail for trial for manslaughter. Bowman will be brought before the court for release on bail.

Stolen Papers Recovered.

Sunday night the sexton of the Fourth United Presbyterian church, on Locust street, Allegheny, discovered in the yard in the rear of the church a money drawer and a number of papers. On examination the papers were found to be promissory notes for about $600, drawn in favor of Mr. Kearney, a grocer, whose store on Ohio street was robbed Friday night. It is stated that the drawer was restored to the owner. The loss is now definitely stated at $10, of which there was $6 in cash and the remainder in cans of oysters.

The South Side School Teachers' Pay.

The teachers of the Bedford school district—because the Central Board authorized a holiday vacation for the last week—will be without their pay for December. The Secretary, who refused to sign the pay roll at a special meeting called for the purpose, offers his resignation rather than sign. The resignation was not, of course, accepted, and to let him down easy it was ordered that the certificate be changed to the number of days actually taught, and then, being signed with a clear conscience by the Secretary, the weighty responsibility of paying for a month's work be placed upon the Central Board!

Narrow Escape.

The church train on the West Penn Railroad made a very narrow escape from destruction Sunday night, at Guyasuta Station, a mile or two above Sharpsburg. Just at that point crosses the bed of the old canal on trestle work, at which, in consequence of the heavy rains, the earth was washed away from the upright timbers, leaving the trestle work without sufficient support to sustain the weight of the train. Fortunately the Allegheny well filled with passengers, and while proceeding along at the usual rate of speed the engineer discovered the danger in time to have been done. He reversed his engine in a twinkling, applied the air brakes, and the train was stopped within a few feet of the trestle work, thus averting a frightful accident. The train was delayed till five o'clock yesterday morning.

The Temperance Alliance.

A stated meeting of the Allegheny County Temperance Alliance was held yesterday, at the rooms, corner of Penn avenue and Sixth street, Mr. Turner in the chair.

Some inquiry was made as to how a number of newsboys had obtained liquor on Sunday, and it was stated that they had "tapped" a barrel. A policeman discovered them and drove them away. The tipsy boys subsequently attended the Newsboys' Sunday School and made things rather lively for a while.

The subject discussed was the Ohio River improvement. Mr. Arthur Kirk, chairman of a committee having the matter in charge, presented a report decidedly favorable to the lock and dam system of improvement, and asking an appropriation of $3,000,000 in behalf of the enterprise. The report was laid over until the next meeting.

The meeting then adjourned.

Card of Thanks.

Wishing all a "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year," and with many thanks to our friends and customers for their very extensive and liberal patronage during the past season and for so many years, especially for their kindly patience and waiting with us, while for the past two or three weeks our storerooms were crowded almost to suffocation, and to regret that even with our increased large force of salesmen, we were unable to wait upon all as promptly as is our desire.

We would also respectfully inform our patrons and the public generally that during the late season, having made extensive purchases by special buyers in *European* and *Eastern* markets, for cash, and having been favored under the most advantageous and favorable auspices, we have been much surprised after arriving, we shall offer during January a very large, fresh and complete stock of Dress Silks, Dress Goods, Shawls, Cloakings, Velvets, &c., &c., at even less than our usual low prices.

WILLIAM SEMPLE & CO.,
105, 107 and 109 Federal street,
Allegheny City.

The Accident at Port Perry.

Reference has already been made to the fact that an unknown man was found dead near Port Perry, on Saturday morning last. The Coroner held an inquest yesterday. The jury, after hearing the evidence, agreed upon a verdict, that the deceased came to his death from injuries accidentally received by falling from an abutment of a bridge which the Pennsylvania Railroad Company is constructing to connect with the Pittsburgh, Virginia and Charleston Railroad. The deceased, named Botumley, left home on Saturday evening for Port Perry, and failing to return in his family became alarmed during the night, and sought the aid of neighbors, who started out in search of him. He was last seen about nine o'clock on Saturday evening, at Port Perry. In search on the next morning his body was found near the abutment, and following of the tracks, the neighbors found his body on the road. The deceased was about forty years of age and leaves a wife and three children.

Christmas Gifts Worthily Bestowed.

The clerks in his office presented "Poe" Kennedy, the popular Prothonotary, with a handsome Christmas gift in the shape of a costly French clock with marble frame, ornamented with handsome bronze figures, also with a fine set of mantel ornaments corresponding with the clock.

The people of Homestead gave their pastor, Rev. J. G. Lyle, and wife, on the evening before Christmas, presents useful, needful and beautiful to the amount of almost $200, and a handsome gift was made.

C. W. Benney, Esq., Treasurer of the Nation's Savings Bank, Allegheny City, was, on Christmas morning, presented with a gold watch and chain by his children.

At the Fourth Presbyterian church, corner of Penn and Seventh streets, on Christmas eve, the pastor, Rev. Gailey, was presented by the congregation with a handsome gold watch.

Relief Meeting in Allegheny.

The fifty citizens appointed by Mayor Phillips to assist the Ladies' Relief Association of Allegheny in getting up a concert for the benefit of the suffering poor, met last evening in the Select Council Chamber. The Mayor presided and Captain R. C. Gray acted as Secretary.

It was stated that the concert would be given on the evening of January 6, in the Second U. P. Church, corner of Stockton avenue and Sandusky street. Among those who have kindly volunteered to assist at the entertainment are the members of the North Avenue Church choir, Mr. John Irvin, an accomplished violinist, the Misses Anna Wallace, Josie Smith and Katie P. Keating, the Messrs. Evens and Krantz, the Allegheny Quartet Club. Mr. C. C. Mellor will preside at the pianos.

Mr. McCreery moved that one hundred tickets be put up at auction next Monday evening. The motion prevailed, and the Select Council chamber was selected as the place for holding the sale, with Mr. Loggan as auctioneer.

It was reported that 625 tickets had been sold, and the indications are fair for a grand success.

A Family of Seven Children Watched.

One of the pleasantest family reunions that has taken place in our community for a long time occurred at the residence of Washington Beale, in Harrison township, this county, on Christmas day, when the entire family of seven children, who are all married and gone from their old homestead, except the two youngest, were invited to once more come together and sit down around the old familiar table to partake of roast turkey and such like, to their heart's content, as they had often done in the days that are gone to return no more. The children, or men and women, as they now are, were more than agreeably surprised after they met by each being presented by their father with a gold watch and chain valued at $250, with the words engraved on the inside of case. "Presented by his (or her) father, (naming the person) December 25, 1875." Mr. Beale is a man who began life poor, but by hard work and strict economy has amassed quite a fortune, and is to-day one of Allegheny county's richest farmers—a man of the strictest integrity in business affairs—one, as the saying is, whose word is as good as his bond—a kind, indulgent father. Long may he spend the kind partner of his joys live to enjoy the blessings of their children, and enjoy the comforts [illegible] they have earned for themselves.

THE INDUSTRIAL INSTITUTE.

The Late Election for Directors—Meeting of the Investigating Committee—Statements of Both Sides Heard—Books and Documents Presented—Proposition for an Amicable Adjustment of the Difficulty.

The committee appointed by the life members of the Tradesmen's Industrial Institute, to investigate and report the facts as to the late election for a Board of Directors, met yesterday afternoon at the rooms of the Chamber of Commerce. There were present Messrs. John Dunlap, Chairman, J. C. Lewis, D. Gregg, A. Bradley, and C. B. Herron—all the members.

Of the members of the late Executive Committee there were present Thomas S. Mitchell, Chairman; J. Vannote, Corresponding Secretary, James Johnson, Recording Secretary, Columbus Coleman, Treasurer, and Mr. W. G. Johnston. A large number of other members of the Institute were also present, including Messrs. Robert Miller, A. Hartupee, T. N. Miller, Charles W. Batchelor, Henry Lloyd, John Bindley, A. M. Brown, Robert Monro.

OBJECT OF THE INVESTIGATION.

The chairman of the Investigating Committee called the meeting to order and stated that the business was to investigate the legality of the late election. Books were asked for and Mr. James Johnson proceeded to procure those in his possession, while Mr. Simon Beymer, Judge and the tellers of the late election were sent for. Awaiting their coming

The chairman stated that as there were two sides to be heard, it was suggested that each choose some one of their party to represent them and make statements and arguments in their behalf.

Mr. C. W. Batchelor stated that doubts having been expressed as to his right to vote he would hand over to the committee his certificate as life member.

The certificate bore date January 25, 1875, and was signed Henry Lloyd, President and J. Vannote, Secretary.

Mr. Vannote said that to verify the statement of the committee heretofore made he would ask the examination of the book now in Mr. W. G. Johnston's hands, showing that the payment of Mr. Batchelor's fee was not recorded.

Mr. W. G. Johnston, handing over the book, said it was true the amount was not inserted as paid but he would ask of Mr. Mitchell the last given him showing a full list of paid up members.

Mr. Mitchell had no recollection of the list or the time and place of its presentation to him.

A discussion was being entered into between Messrs. Mitchell and Johnston when Mr. C. B. Herron interrupted and read the constitution and by-laws relating to the question of membership. He called attention to the fact that fees must be paid on or before November 30th, to admit of voting at the next election.

The chairman thought Mr. Herron out of order, being a member of the Committee of Investigation. He thought the question was to hear the two sides and then verify their statements by the records.

Mr. J. C. Lewis said it was charged that the election was illegal and in this both sides should be heard.

Mr. Herron thought it would be well to know when the change was made in the by-laws making the annual membership fee $50, instead of $5. [Subsequently it was shown that this change was made November 26th.]

It was then decided to hear one member on each side, the books having been procured.

THE "OUTS" HEARD FROM.

Mr. Johnston came to the front and proceeded with his statement. He had to say that the usual numbers were never admitted on action of the Board, and they proposed to prove that some had never signed the constitution and by-laws, and some who voted had not then paid their dues. He exhibited the book, showing that some members had not fully paid—had paid only on account. At the meeting of December 11th the clerk, M. Johnson, read the list of members fully paid and was instructed to present such list for voting. The speaker continued, saying that the list presented was not such, but contained other names. Mr. Johnston again repeated his statement of proceedings that took place at the meeting on Monday, December 13th, as before published. [At this point Mr. Johnston, on inquiry, said he had his statement in writing, and he then proceeded to read it. The statement was presented to the committee, as also a list of alleged annual members who voted.

REPLY OF THE "INS."

Mr. Vannote made a statement for the other side. He had no written statement, and first showed the provisions of the constitution and by-laws as to the election, all of which, he claimed, had been fully complied with. As to the qualifications of members, the speaker referred to the proceedings at the election, where, he claimed, Mr. W. G. Johnston was allowed to have his own way, as he had for three weeks previously. As to the change in the provisions making $50 for annual membership, it was a mere agreeing to point in the constitution, on motion of Mr. Johnston—the time when may be ascertained from the minutes. As to signing the constitution quite a number declined to do so for fear that they might become responsible individually for it this had been strictly required it would have cut out many life members. How certificates were obtained was explained by Mr. Vannote. He said the committee had issued them to thank in the hope of effecting speedy acquisitions to the membership and thus increase the fund. In this way certificates were put out in the hands of persons interested. He also read the constitution showing that it was mandatory upon the Board to elect persons who paid and signed.

Mr. Vannote here commenced to explain as to annual membership, when Mr. Dunlap having got one of the registry books in his hand and not following the speaker carefully, got mixed as to the explanation going on and interrupted the speaker. In consequence reporters all got muddled and the consecutive statement was lost.

Getting started again, Mr. Vannote said it would be found that many of the paid members had not strictly complied with requirements. In the hurry of the work it was not until the next to the last meeting of the Board that the matter of passing upon members was brought up. Then, Mr. Johnston, acting in the meritorious motions, desiring to clear out things, called up the book (the life membership), and got the original list. At the election votes were received on certificate or receipt. No number. Except upon his own fault should be debarred from voting. If it was the fault of the Board in not passing upon the books, or of the Secretary in not issuing and reporting the name, or of any member of the Board, the member should not be debarred from voting. This was the view the speaker and his colleagues took on that point. The speaker then went on to read the list carefully, and it was found *not* to differ in a more formal way that all had paid *must* be admitted. Mr. Johnson asked no questions as to members there were in the new list. I said of *annual* members there were about seventy. It was clearly understood that the names must go on. I proceeded to read the list, when a motion was made to adjourn.

ILLEGAL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.

With reference to membership, Mr. Vannote said that charter members were on the same footing as annual members, and the annual membership expired November 30th. Further, none but life members could be members of the Board. If it was necessary to raise the question, he could say that one man (Mr. Gilleland) was never a member of the Institute, never having paid any money. Under the rule of expiration of the annual membership, November 30, Mr. Ellis could not be considered a member, as the two last meetings. Here were two of the voting members, who legally, had no right to vote. We didn't expect to thieve nothing on, said the speaker; we had trouble enough without raising that line against the Board during the recent adjourn, Mr. Johnston and Mr. Lyon voted with these two. They were in a fright at [illegible], and the speaker went on to read they bolted. Mr. Ellis never announced the investigation. Four left the board of the members remaining. The reading of the names was continued and, the speaker held, should be considered